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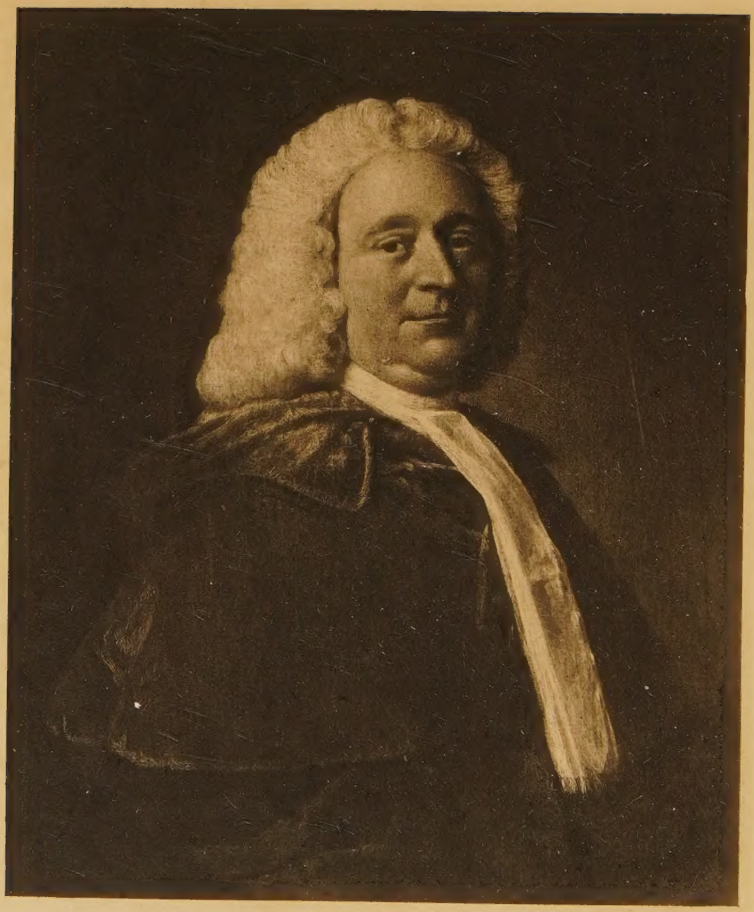

PATRICK GRANT — LORD ELCHIES

from the painting by Allan Ramsay
in the Scottish National Gallery

LETTERS OF

PATRICK GRANT, LORD ELCHIES

WITH

MEMOIR, ETC.

BY

H. D. MACWILLIAM

AUTHOR OF "THE BLACK WATCH MUTINY," ETC.

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SOME BOOKS ARE, TO BE TASTED, OTHERS TO BE SWALLOWED,
AND SOME FEW TO BE CHEWED AND DIGESTED. — Bacon

30454

PREFACE.

One cannot help wondering how the estate accounts and correspondence relating thereto of the factor of Ballindalloch for the greater portion of the eighteenth century should have been the subject of sale at Putticks, the well-known London auctioneers, over sixty years ago. They were acquired by the British Museum authorities, and in the MSS. Department of that Institution they have been carefully preserved. It is owing entirely to the factor of Ballindalloch having acted in a similar capacity for Lord Elchies' estates that the letters written by the latter have become available, there being no indication of the existence of the Elchies estate accounts for the period which Lord Elchies' letters cover.

It does not transpire at what date Robert Grant of Tammore, to whom the bulk of the letters printed in this volume were addressed, was appointed factor for Lord Elchies. Certainly he held that office on 25th May, 1727, the earliest in date of Lord Elchies' letters to him preserved with the Tammore MSS. It is impossible to say why these particular letters were preserved, since they evidently only represent a fraction of those written by Lord Elchies to his factor, and as they have come down to us, so are they now printed, none being withheld.

Whilst it is no doubt a matter for regret that the letters of Lord Elchies are not of a more representative nature, still it is believed that they will help to fill that gap in the history of his lordship's career referred to as long ago as the year 1813 by Mr. Wm. Morrison, Advocate, the learned Editor of Lord Elchies' "Notes" and "Decisions," in the words, "Few circumstances relative to Lord Elchies's private life or opinions have reached the present day." It is hoped also that the volume may prove of special interest to residents in the north-east of Scotland, as affording some additional light on persons, events and customs of the early part of the eighteenth century, prior to the "Forty-Five"; and that they will not be wanting in interest to the

members of that profession in Scotland which Lord Elchies so signally adorned. The letters addressed to his lordship and those in Appendix I are printed in order to supply further information on the matters referred to in Lord Elchies' own letters, whilst it is hoped that they will be of interest as memorials of the respective writers, many of whom were of consequence in their day.

Lord Elchies was not the first eminent judge connected with Knockando, Sir Francis Grant, Lord Cullen, having been born at Ballintomb in that parish about the year 1660. Lord Cullen's son, William, Lord Prestongrange, was a friend of Lord Elchies, and, on the latter's death, succeeded him both as a Lord of Session and of Justiciary. But two or three miles, also, from the House of Easter Elchies, on Lord Elchies' own estate in the parish of Rothes, was born Sir William Grant, descended from the first Grants of Ballindalloch, and so related to Lord Elchies, who attained the high position of Master of the Rolls. In this connection it is perhaps worthy of note that a more recent Master of the Rolls sleeps in Knockando Churchyard, Sir Archibald Leven Smith, who was for a long time lessee of the House of Wester Elchies, and died there. His daughter married the present proprietor, J. W. H. Grant of Carron, another descendant of the first Grants of Ballindalloch, and so related to both Lord Elchies and Sir William Grant.

The Editor has to acknowledge with gratitude the encouragement and assistance kindly afforded by Mr. John A. Henderson, Cults, the well-known historian and Editor of *Scottish Notes and Queries*, in the publication of this book, including the perusal of the proofs.

The writer must also disclaim any idea of fitness to edit this volume: he has been prompted to do so solely on account of his interest in the parish of Knockando, of which he is a native, and where his boyhood's days were mostly spent. He trusts, therefore, that subscribers will extend their indulgence for any discrepancies found in the book.

H. D. MacW.

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MEMOIR.

PATRICK GRANT, afterwards distinguished by the judicial title of Lord Elchies, was born in the year 1690, in the House of Easter Elchies, in the parish of Knockando, Morayshire.[1] He was the son of Captain John Grant of Easter Elchies by his wife, Elizabeth, third daughter of John Grant of Ballindalloch,[2] in the parish of Inveravon. Captain Grant seems to have been the second son of Robert Grant of Easter Elchies, and on 5th September, 1688, he received from his elder brother, Patrick, Laird of Easter Elchies, a disposition of the lands of Edinvillie, in the parish of Aberlour, which was confirmed by charter from Alexander Duff of Braco, the superior, on 30th September, 1697.[3] Captain Grant is stated to have distinguished himself at the Battle of Cromdale,[4] and Sir Walter Scott, in "Tales of a Grandfather," presumably refers to him in the following passage respecting that encounter:—

> Sir Thomas Livingstone, an excellent old officer, who commanded on the part of King William, assembled a large force of cavalry, some infantry, and a body of the Clan Grant, who had embraced William's interest. The general's guide on this night's march was Grant of Elchies, who having conducted him from Forres, down the hill above Castle Grant, and through the valley of Auchinarrow, to the side of the Spey, opposite to the haugh of Cromdale, with the advanced guard of Grant, forded the broad and rapid river. He next killed, with his own hand, two of the Highlanders' outposts or sentinels, and led his own party, with Sir Thomas Livingstone and his cavalry, through a thicket of beech-trees, and thus surprised Buchan and his army asleep in their quarters. They fought gallantly, notwithstanding, with their swords and targets, but were at length compelled to take to flight.

[1] "The Stat. Acc. of Elginshire," p. 69
[2] "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 506.
[3] *Ibid.*
[4] "The Stat. Acc. of Elginshire, p. 70.

It is to be observed, however, that Captain John Grant would not appear to have been Laird of Easter Elchies at this time, but his elder brother, Patrick, who, on 29th July, 1693, was retoured heir-male to his uncle, Patrick Grant of Edinvillie or Hillhall.[1] Nevertheless, the references to Captain Grant's services in the "Statistical Account," and in the epitaph by his son to his memory, and the circumstance that he was a soldier, point to the conclusion that he was the hero of the famous fight on "The Haughs of Cromdale." Captain Grant succeeded his brother Patrick as Laird of Easter Elchies before 19th December, 1696,[2] and is said to have built the House of Easter Elchies in 1700.[3] In 1711 he purchased the barony of Rothes from John, ninth Earl of Rothes,[4] and died on 4th March, 1715, leaving his wife, Elizabeth, his son, Patrick, and at least one daughter, Helen, surviving him, and was buried in Elchies Churchyard. In the east wall of the Kirk of Elchies, which became ruinous about 1760, his son, Patrick, caused to be placed to his memory an elegant monument with a tablet flanked by two Corinthian pillars, bearing the following inscription:—

> Sub hoc marmore in Christi adventum conduntur cineres Ioannis Grant de Elchies, viri æternum lugendi, qui, dum inter vivos, nunquam adeo sibi suisq quam aliis officia præstare solicitus fuit; amicum certissimum amicis, egenis levamen promptum, singulis hospitem liberalissimum ubiq se præstitit; de patria vero, propter operam ei in bello posteriore civili non minus fideliter quam feliciter navatam, optime meritus, et postquam tam in sacris quam negotiis secularibus omnium cujuscunq generis virtutum constanti exercitio veræ nobilitatis characteristicon adeptus esset, a virtutis Auctore vocatus, fatis cessit Martii IV^to^, anno salutis humanæ MDCCXV, ætatis LVI^to^, hoc unicum ædificium in debitæ filialis observantiæ, justiq doloris tesseram, Patricio, filio unico, extruendum relinquens.[5]

[1] "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 506.
[2] *Ibid.*
[3] "The Stat. Acc. of Elginshire," p. 70.
[4] "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 506.
[5] Jervise's "Epitaphs," Vol. I, 298.

[Under this marble, until the advent of Christ, lie the ashes of John Grant of Elchies, an ever-to-be lamented man, who, while among the living, was never so anxious to promote the interests of himself and his family, as those of others; to his friends he ever showed himself a very sure friend, to the needy a ready benefactor, to all a very liberal host; by the not less loyal than successful services which he rendered to his native land during the late Civil War, he earned a just title to the deepest gratitude of his countrymen; and, after he had by the constant practice of every kind of excellence in sacred as well as in secular affairs, acquired the distinctive mark of true nobility, being summoned by the Author of virtue, he departed this life 4th March, 1715, in his 56th year, leaving this unique structure to be erected by his only son, Patrick, in token of due filial respect and just regret.]

Concerning Mr. Patrick Grant's early life, unfortunately, little seems to have been transmitted to the present day, but he was a student at Marischal College, Aberdeen, within the period 1701-05,[1] and he subsequently studied at Leyden. The Archivarius of that University has kindly furnished the following particulars of his attendance there:—

Patricius Grand, Scotus, 20 (years) J. (ur. stud.) is inscribed as a student in the Album Academicum on 10 Nov. 1710. He dwelt at L. at Mr. Hercul. Vrillac's in the Korsteeg (near S. Peter), thus probably in a refugee family. He studied here till in the course of 1712, not being reinscribed on the pedell's rolls in 1713, which is the case in 1711-12. He took no degree and studied under the famous jurists P. R. Vitriarius, Joh. Voet, Ant. Matthaeus and Ger. Noodt, of the best in our country. That is all I can tell you of his study life here.

On 12th February, 1712, Mr. Grant was admitted Advocate, and attained considerable eminence as a Barrister, and acquired a very extensive practice.[2] He married Margaret, daughter of Sir

[1] *Fasti Academiae Mariscallanae Aberdonensis* (New Spalding Club), Vol. II, 281.
[2] Brunton & Haig's "Hist. Acc. of the Senators of the Coll. of Justice," p. 503.

Robert Dickson, Bart. of Carberry,[1] the marriage contract being dated 19th May and 6th June, 1713, and Mr. Grant then received from his father a settlement of the whole estate,[2] comprising the baronies of Easter Elchies, Edinvillie and Rothes; and on 21st June, 1718, he was served heir-general to his father.[3] On Captain Grant's death, his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Grant, became entitled to a small jointure,[4] and apparently continued to reside in the House of Easter Elchies until her death, which occurred after September, 1729.[5] It would appear that the estates devolved on Mr. Grant, burdened with obligations created by his father,[6] and the frequent references in Mr. Grant's earlier letters to payment of annual-rents and repayment of principal sums, probably relate to such obligations. But be that as it may, and whether prompted by necessity or ambition, Mr. Grant, after his father's death, seems continuously to have devoted his energies to the profession he had embraced in his father's lifetime, and in which he was destined to gain so great distinction.

Mr. Grant's uncle, John Roy Grant of Ballindalloch, would not appear to have taken part with his brother-in-law, Captain John Grant, in the night attack on General Buchan's army at the "Haughs of Cromdale," as he is said to have fought under Dundee at Killiecrankie, and to have been presented by the Viscount with a silver-mounted snuff-mull,[7] inscribed, "Presented to John Grant Roy, Laird of Ballindalloch, by Viscount Dundee." John Roy Grant was the last Laird of the first Grants of Ballindalloch. In his time the Ballindalloch estates became inextricably encumbered, and were taken possession of by his creditors, being ultimately

[1]The Lordship of Inveresk, which had belonged to this family, was sold to Anne, Duchess of Monmouth and Buccleuch.

[2]"The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 507.

[3]*Ibid.*

[4]*Vide* Letter No. X.

[5]*Vide* Letter No. XXII.

[6]*Vide* App. Nos. V, VIII, XVI.

[7]It would appear that the snuff-mull was recently in the possession of the Grants of Wester Elchies (cadets of the first Grants of Ballindalloch). Gordon's edition of Shaw's "Hist. of the Province of Moray," Vol. I, 187.

acquired by Colonel William Grant, younger son of James Grant of Rothiemurchus, and ancestor of the present Laird of Ballindalloch.[1]

An early reference to Mr. Grant's professional career is to be found in a "Decreit of Exoneration" granted to Robert Grant of Knockanreich[2] in 1715, in respect of the latter's intromissions as factor with the Ballindalloch estate, following his petition to the Lords of Council and Session. In this Decreit it is recited that "the said Robert Grant, petitioner forsaid compearing be Mr. Patrick Grant, advocat, his procurator, who ffor verefying his being appointed ffactor upon the said estate of Ballandalloch produced an Act of the Lords of Session in favours of the said Robert Grant dated the day of yeares[3] appointing him to be ffactor and authorizing him to uplift the rents of the said estate of Ballandalloch *anno* one thousand seven hundred and eleven, preceeding rests and since syne during the continuance of the said ffactory." In the "Discharge" for the year 1711, detailed in the Decreit, is the entry:—"Item. To Alexander Ross, messenger, ffor executing a summonds of mailes and duties against Captain John Grant of Easter Elchies, Mr. Patrick Grant, advocat," and others. The explanation is supplied by a later entry:—"Item. To fifty merks resting by Captain John Grant for the rent of Corriesheillach, being a part of the daach of Morange, detained by him on pretence of having a tack[4] of it for fifteen pound Scots ffor which the ffactor also commenced a proces against him—Thirty three pounds six shillings eight pennies." In the "Discharge" for the year 1712 we find:—"Item. To the rent of Corrieshellach detained by Easter Elchies till the proces against him be discust—Thirty three pounds six shillings eight pennies."

[1] "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 520.

[2] There is a place of this name in the parish of Knockando.

[3] In another part of the Decreit there is reference to "the ffactory having come to the ffactor's hand only in September one thousand seven hundred and eleven years."

[4] This tack was no doubt from his brother-in-law, John Roy Grant of Ballindalloch. Captain Grant, therefore, ignored the factor, who represented the creditors.

Similar entries occur in the "Discharges" for the years 1713 and 1714. Objections were made to certain items in the factor's accounts by Archibald Ogilvie,[1] as procurator for "Collonell William Grant of the Independent Company, creditor on the said estate of Ballandalloch, and pursuer of the sale and ranking thereof," and an extract from the "Decreit" (which is an exceedingly lengthy document) appears in this volume,[2] in which are set forth the contentions of Mr. Ogilvie, and the replies thereto of Mr. Patrick Grant on the factor's behalf. In the course of these arguments some curious facts were disclosed respecting the embarrassed position of Mr. Patrick Grant's uncle, John Roy Grant of Ballindalloch, which resulted in the loss of the latter's ancestral estates.[3] In all probability, Robert Grant of Knockanreich, the factor, was identical with Robert Grant of Tammore (who subsequently acted for so many years as factor for Mr. Patrick Grant and for the Lairds of Ballindalloch of the new line) to whom the bulk of the letters printed in this volume were addressed.[4] It is worthy of notice that a special friendship existed between Mr. Patrick Grant and Colonel William Grant, the new Laird of Ballindalloch, and many references occur in the Tammore MSS. to kindly services rendered to the latter's children when at school in Edinburgh or its vicinity, by Mr. Patrick Grant and his wife.[5]

Lord Elchies evidently took a special interest in the welfare of James Grant (afterwards General), the younger son of Colonel William Grant. Thus, in the Ballindalloch estate accounts for 1731 is an entry:—"To cash paid to Mr. Patrick Grant of Elchies that he laid out for James' board etc. as per account, £10 17. 2. sterling"; and after Colonel Grant's death we find George Gordon, W.S., Edinburgh, writing to Tammore on 6th January, 1736:—"Elchies has repaid me the three pound sterling I gave out for

[1] Archibald Ogilvie of Rothiemay, Advocate.

[2] *Vide* App. No. II.

[3] In this connection, *Vide* App. No. I.

[4] Tammore is in the parish of Inveravon, and only a short distance from Ballindalloch Castle.

[5] *Vide* Letter No. II.

Jamie"; whilst Tammore wrote to George Gordon on 26th August following:—"I find Jamie must be settled at the College of Edinburgh this winter: pray talk to Lord Elchies about settling him; I wish you could take him in to your own house if you have a spare room." And on 22nd October of the same year, Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch, the elder brother of James, wrote to Tammore:—"I know Lord Elchies was always for settling Jamie at the College of Edinburgh: if it is for his good I am perfectly satisfied, for I never will grudge him anything that can reasonably be demanded of me, though I don't think I can spare it out of my own allowance." Again, on 19th November following, Lachlan Grant of Gartinbeg, writer in Edinburgh, wrote to Tammore somewhat quaintly, "I beg you don't neglect sending money to clear the accounts, for the people are prodigiously uneasy about them, and Jamie's board and his College fees comes pretty dear and is advanced by Elchies as there is no trust to be had of those things."[1]

From contemporary letters printed in "The Chiefs of Grant," as well as from some of those included in this volume, we gather that Mr. Grant was on intimate terms, both before and after his elevation to the bench, with the Lairds of Grant and their connections, including the ill-fated Simon, Lord Lovat, who had married, in 1716, Margaret, fourth daughter of Ludovick Grant of Grant. Lord Lovat, indeed, would appear to have had a special predilection for Mr. Patrick Grant. The first reference to the latter in "The Chiefs of Grant" is contained in a letter from Lewis Colquhoun of Luss to his father, Sir James Grant, dated from Edinburgh on 20th June, 1727, in which is the following passage:—

> Yesterday we had account of the king's death about four a clock in the morning, and again twelve the Prince was proclaimed. I would that very minute I had account of the king's death have sent you ane expres, but Robert Grant of Glenbeg[2] diswaded me. Just now Mr. Grant of Elchise came to me, and desired me to write to you as his opinion that you

[1] *Vide* App. No. CXL.
[2] A writer in Edinburgh.

ought furthwith to haste hear, and take post for London, for the king has called the parliament, and all our members hear are goeing up.

Very shortly after this a task of considerable delicacy devolved on Mr. Grant in connection with the marriage of the writer of the letter above mentioned, Lewis Colquhoun of Luss, an account of which Sir William Fraser has thus summarised in "The Chiefs of Grant":—

On 6th July, 1727, he[1] married, at Edinburgh, Marion Dalrymple, second of the three daughters of the Honourable Sir Hew Dalrymple, Baronet, of North Berwick, president of the court of session. It was a somewhat hasty step taken without the consent of the parents of either, and both Sir James Grant and Sir Hew Dalrymple were highly incensed. The work of pacifying them was undertaken on behalf of the young couple by Patrick Grant, afterwards Lord Elchies, to whom Sir James wrote expressing much displeasure with Ludovick. In his reply Mr. Grant alludes to this, and says, "The poor young fellow himself is quite confounded. . . It has been my dayly employment to importune the President to be reconcil'd to them. . . I gave him the most positive and full assurances that however you might possibly be a litle angry with your son for doing it in that manner, yet you wou'd be heartily pleased with the thing itself. . . I us'd all my litle rhetorick to convince him that I know your sentiments of the marriage as well as if you had actually been here, and that the allyance with his Lordship's family wou'd give you the greatest joy," etc. He then intimates the result, that after much argument, he had persuaded the President not only to see the young couple, but to receive them into his family. Sir James's letter, however, had greatly disconcerted Mr. Patrick Grant, but the latter concealed the tone of Sir James's letter from the President. Mr. Grant then proceeds to conciliate Sir James himself. He implores him to reflect more deliberately on the matter, as the fact of Ludovick's marrying without his father's consent was the "only circumstance of the marriage that's blamable," and employs various arguments to induce Sir James to agree heartily

[1]Lewis Colquhoun.

to the marriage, and be reconciled to his son and daughter-in-law. He reminds Sir James that in regard to Luss he had only a reserved liferent, but that since his succession to the Grant estates, he had intromitted with the rents of Luss. This fact, Mr. Grant points out, would raise difficulties with the heir of tailzie, and for that reason as well as others, he urges Sir James to take a cordial view of Ludovick's marriage.

Whether these arguments had any effect on Sir James, or whether calmer reflection showed him that his son's fault was one to be leniently dealt with, the result was pleasing to Ludovick Grant and his young wife.

It is noteworthy that Lord Lovat in this affair also pled the cause of the future Laird of Grant, his Lordship having written to his brother-in-law, Sir James, as follows:—

> Be not only reconciled to your son Lewis, but fix your affection and confidence in him, for I do assure you that he is the hope of your family, and a very glorious hope he is, for there is not in Scotland a smarter young man of his age, and I hope he will do great things for your family; and you should consider that if H[umphrey] dyes,[1] Lewis is not only young Laird of Grant, but Laird of Luss, and if you was dead, and he hapen to survive you, it is not your second son, but his second son, that will be Laird of Luss, as the President [Sir Hew Dalrymple] plainly explained to Peter Grant and me.

On the same subject, Sir Hew Dalrymple wrote on 26th July, 1727, to Sir James Grant:—

> The advices I depended most upon were my Lord Lovett (who does me the honour to carry this letter) and Mr. Grant of Easter Elchies, as being both your friends and relations, and it being very easy for a tender-hearted parent to forgive offending children, I have, upon the 24th instant, in the evening, received them into my family.

Again, respecting some business transaction, Lord Lovat wrote on 13th January, 1728, to Sir James Grant:—

> I am heartily sory that any of my letters should give you grounds to be offended at me. I never wrot on that subject

[1] Humphrey did die.

> but to Collonell Grant[1] and to Peter of Elches, which I thought was the same as writing to yourself.

From the same letter we find that Lord Lovat was numbered amongst Mr. Grant's clients. The passage runs:—

> My affair came on befor my Lord Muny last Wed[ne]sday, and to my great surprise that Lord, whom I thought one of the surest arrows in my bagg, Peter and William Grants,[2] who both strongly pleaded my cause, told me that my Lord Muny was against me in a point of form that the clarks openly said was for me.

And as regards the letters printed in "The Chiefs of Grant," it is mainly in those of Lord Lovat that references to Mr. Grant are to be found. Another indication of his popularity as an Advocate occurs in a letter from Major Lewis Grant, brother of the Laird of Grant, to Tammore, dated 27th August, 1731, which runs:—"As for a man of law, I shall seek noe other than my brother's—I mean Elchies." Another letter from the Major to Tammore, dated 3rd December, 1732, runs:—"I'm heartily glad that Elchies is Lord, and Humphrey dead."

On the death of Sir John Maxwell of Pollock, Mr. Grant was elevated to the bench, and took his seat by the title of Lord Elchies on 3rd November, 1732.[3] On 3rd March, 1737, he succeeded Walter Pringle of Newhall as a Lord of Justiciary,[4] and both of these offices he retained until his death.

On the death of Colonel William Grant, the desirability of his being succeeded by a member of the Clan in the command of his independent company was at once appreciated; and thus we find Ludovick Colquhoun of Luss writing, on 16th May, 1733, to Tammore in reply to the latter's intimation of the Colonel's death, as follows:—

[1] Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch.

[2] Afterwards Lord Prestongrange.

[3] Books of Sederunt.

[4] *Ibid.*

Immediatlie upon reading your letter I thought of ye Captain[1] to succeed him in his Companie, and sent my servt to know if Lo/ Elchies was at home: he was dineing abroad however. About six at night he came to me and I told him of my thoughts of writeing to my father to make a point and to push hard to have ye Captain to succeed him. Lord Elchies, you may easielie believe, was of your opinion and mine yt it would be a prodigious loss to our Clan if we did not succeed in getting this to our friend.

Lord Elchies' sister, Helen, married Alexander, son of John Grant of Dalrachnie, in the parish of Duthil, and from Letter No. XXXIII, we learn that the latter's death, which occurred in 1735, was an irreparable loss to Lord Elchies, as was also that of Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch in 1733. From the frequent references to the subject in the Tammore MSS., it is clear that the elder Dalrachnie—by which designation he is, in Scottish fashion, usually referred to in the Letters—was of great service to Lord Elchies in disposing of his meal, of which his lordship, as a considerable landed proprietor, received from his tenants, in accordance with the custom of the time, large quantities annually in part payment of their rent. Tammore was necessarily much concerned in the matter of the disposal of the meal, hence the frequent references to the subject in Lord Elchies' Letters to him; his lordship himself, at times, also negotiating sales. Thus, in 1729 (Letter No. XXI), we find reference to a contract with Colonel Guest (afterwards so prominently associated with the defence of Edinburgh Castle in 1745), and again in 1738 (Letters Nos. XXXVI and XXXVII) with the same gentleman. But Lord Elchies, in this, as in all other matters connected with his estates, apparently had no faith in his own capacity, and was wont to remind his factor that he preferred to leave matters entirely to the latter, or at least to obtain his advice before proceeding to conclude a contract. Indeed, Lord Elchies' appreciation of Tammore's services apparently never faltered during the quarter of a century covered by the Letters; and this

[1]Captain (afterwards Major) George Grant of Culbin, brother of Sir James Grant of Grant.

is perhaps nowhere better illustrated than in Letter No. LXVII, where occurs the passage:—"But assure yourself, whether you be old or young, so long as wee both live, while I am Laird, you *must* be my operator, and I'll never once think of another." Robert Grant was evidently persuaded to retain his office, which it is clear he had, probably on account of his age, contemplated resigning about that time (*vide* App. No. XCVI).

A letter from Lord Lovat to Sir James Grant, dated Edinburgh, 10th March, 1733, commences thus:—"I had the honour of your letter by the last post, and I went imediatly to my Lord Elches, who assur'd me that McKinon had done what you desire befor my letter came to my hands."

From Tammore's letter of 16th December, 1727, we gather that Lord Elchies then resided in Covenant Close, and from his Lordship's letter of 23rd April, 1733, we learn that he had removed the week before to a house in the Canongate.

In a letter from Lord Lovat to Ludovick Colquhoun of Luss, Advocate, dated Edinburgh, 14th September, 1733, is the following:—

> That night I receav'd all your letters at once. I sent my Lord Elches, not being able to go to him, and he came to see me, and show'd me your letter. He advis'd me to go yesterday morning to the Peer,[1] being now among the first of the Cabinet Council, and beg of the Peer to writ to McIntosh, as your father desir'd. Accordingly I waited of the Peer and press'd his writeing. He told me he would writ to the Laird of Grant a letter, to be shown to McIntosh, but would not put a letter of that kind in McIntoshe's power to be shown to his enemys. Elches thought this very right, and accordingly befor me he gave Elches your father's letter, which he call'd ostensible, that is to be shewn to McIntosh. He told me he gave the same promises to McIntosh at London, and seems not pleas'd with him at all that he did not than declare for Craigelahy, and now McIntosh is a madman fit for Bedlum if he does not put himself in the Peer's hands.

[1] Probably Archibald, Earl of Islay, in this year appointed Keeper of the Great Seal.

To the same correspondent Lord Lovat wrote from Beaufort on 26th April, 1734, in connection with the election of Member of Parliament for Inverness-shire:—

> I have writ to my Lords Ilay, Milton, and Elches; [and in reference to Glengarry] I do not disspair to have him stay at home, for all his gasconades. He will have a charge of horning from me in his hands the next week, for above 11,000 marks. He had another expression that I am glad of, which was, that any that would quarel his having a good vote should not go alive out of Inverness; so that we have just grounds of having a strong guard, which I beg you may writ of to my Lords Milton and Elches. I beg you be not three days without sending me an express, as I will to you.

In a further letter to the same correspondent, dated from Beaufort, 12th May, 1734, Lord Lovat wrote:—

> I send you back my Lord Elches and Lachlan Grant's[1] letter to yourself, and a copy of my Lord Elches and my Lord Miltown's letters to me, which are vouchers to us for our conduct.

Charles, seventh Earl of Moray, in a letter to Andrew Fletcher, Lord Milton, dated from Donibrisle, 2nd April, 1735, remarked:—

> I suspect my nephew's conduct in the north concerning the marches of Brae-Morray gave some umbrage to Sir James, and I'm sorry for it, but in testimony of my regard to him and his family, I'm willing that that affair be settled at the sight of your Lordship and my Lord Elchies, to whom please make my compliments acceptable, and in whose friendship to both familys I have intire confidance.

It may be noted that on 23rd May, 1735, Lord Elchies wrote to Tammore from Shank House, and his letters are dated from that residence down to 12th August, 1746. James Grant, in "Old and New Edinburgh," mentions that Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, King's Advocate during the reigns of Charles II and James II, "had a country house, ten miles south of Edinburgh, called Shank, now in ruins."

[1] Writer in Edinburgh.

Lord Lovat seems to have looked to Lord Elchies for guidance in every emergency. On 25th November, 1735, he wrote from Beaufort to Ludovick Grant, younger of Grant, in connection with the trouble in which Allan Grant of the Glenmoriston family had become involved in consequence of a McDonald having been killed in a quarrel, as follows:—

> The McDonalds will have Allan to be the man that kill'd him, tho' he declares himself innocent, and is willing to undergo any tryal of law either at Edinburgh or in this country; but nothing will satisfy the McDonalds but his blood, which they say they will have at any rate, if he does not banish himself the kingdom. But I think you and I are obliged to protect and support him as much as we are able; you as his chief and relation, and I as his relation and proprietor of the lands that he possesses. It is very hard if the Grants, Frasers, and Camerons, in whose quarrel this happened, cannot protect a relation who has no laws against him, but is willing to submit himself to the law. I therefore beg, since you are at the fountain of the law,[1] to advise with your friend my Lord Elches what to do. I think a law borras against them all would be very necessary, since they openly and avowedly declare that they will take his life tho' he had the King's remission in his pocket.

Again, in a letter to the same correspondent, dated from Beaufort, 16th July, 1736, in reference to Foyers' refusal of his commission, Lord Lovat wrote:—

> I send you south a copy of my obligation to him and his obligation to me, with the instrument that I took; and I earnestly beg that you may consider seriously on this affair, and if you think it proper, I believe it would not be amiss to speak of it to my Lord Elches and to the Justice-Clerk, for I am very much affraid, by seeing his insolent behaviour, that he is supported by those who would wish to throw dirt upon you and me, and use all their malice to prove that your father's election was got by bribery and corruption. I hope you will consider how to prevent this, and how to get up my obligation

[1] Ludovick Grant was an Advocate.

before I be obliged to pursue Foyers before the Lords, for he is positive that he will make me pay every farthing of it, and I am positive that all the laws of the kingdom must order it before I pay a sixpence of it. This is a very delicate affair, and I think our patron, my Lord Ilay, should be acquainted with it, and the plain matter of fact told him, and to beg his advice and direction, which all of us should follow implicitely without any murmour. This is my sincere opinion of the whole matter, and I leave it to yourself and to our friend my Lord Elches to do in it what you think proper. I shall alwayes be frankly determined by what you and my Lord Ilay thinks proper. I beg you make my complements to my good friends, my Lord Justice-Clerk and my Lord Elches.

In another letter to the young Laird of Grant, dated from Beaufort, 8th June, 1736, Lord Lovat wrote:—

I give my blessing to my dear Lord Elches and his family. I am convinced he will take care of Margaret Grant's children as far as it is proper for his Lordship to do.

Lord Lovat was, no doubt, here alluding to his own children by his then deceased wife, Margaret, sister of Sir James Grant of Grant, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. That Lord Lovat had Lord Elchies' interest at heart is clear from a letter addressed by the former to his distinguished relative, Archibald, Earl of Ilay, then keeper of the great seal, dated from Beaufort, 21st January, 1737, which contains the following passage:—

It is generally believ'd in this country that my Lord Elches will get the Justiciary. I wish it may be so with all my heart, for my Lord Elches will alwayes do honour to his patron in any rank that he can be preferr'd to.

On 3rd March following, Lord Elchies, as already indicated, was appointed a Lord of Justiciary.

Respecting reports which had gained currency as to his political sentiments, Lord Lovat wrote to Sir James Grant from Beaufort on 13th May, 1737, thus:—

When I told a little of this to our friend my Lord Elches, he told me that any that would believe such ridiculous storys of

me must be mad, or believe me stark mad; and truly that is the justest thing can be said of it.

On the same subject, Lord Lovat wrote to the Earl of Islay from Beaufort on 27th May, 1737:—

Tho' I was acquainted by severall of my friends that I was accused and represented above as a man dissaffected and plotting to disturb the Government, yet the aspersion in itself being so rediculous, and so contrary to common sense and reason, I truly thought shame to give your Lordship any trouble about it, especially when you was in a hurry about the judges and the Edinburgh afair. But since the calumny is continued in such a malicious manner, as if some persons will give so much credit to it as may hurt me and my family, I think I am oblidged by the duty I owe to myself, to my family, and to my kindred, to make such a vindication to your Lordship as my patron, and the Ministry, as will convince you and all impartiall men that I am hienously injured by the villanus and false accusation and imputations laid at my doors without any real ground or fundation. I am sorry that in making this vindication I must give your Lordship the trouble of a long letter. When my Lord Elchies was at my house in time of his circuit, I told him as my freind that I was represented above as a man dissaffected and plotting to disturb the Government. I thought his answer to me was very just and right. He said that persons that would beleive that of me must believe that I am stark mad. . .

In a letter to Sir James Grant, dated from Beaufort, 29th March, 1739, in reference to the education of his eldest son, Simon, Master of Lovat, Lord Lovat wrote:—

So that I hope, since I offer to settle him with Mr. Peetter Cummin, minister of Edinburgh, or with Mr. Ker, the Professor of Humanity, who are both Whiggs, and friends to my Lord Ilay, that his Lordship will be well satisfied with it; for I am positivly of oppinion that Edinburgh is the best part in the island for him to be brought up in, where his friends and relations will have occasion to see him every day, both of your family and of mine, such as my Lord Elchies, the Solicitor,[1]

[1]Mr. William Grant, afterwards Lord Prestongrange.

and severall others of your family, and severall Frasers of mine. Besides that, you and your son and your brothers and myself sometimes will have occasion to see him and to know what he is doing.

Again, in a letter to Ludovick Grant, younger of Grant, dated from Beaufort, 24th April, 1740, Lord Lovat remarked:—

> If the Senator of the Colledge of Justice, my friend Petry Oig, be at Castle Grant, I beg you do me the honour to assure him of my most sincere and humble respects. I have not been a mile from my own house since October last, tho' I bless God I never was in greater health or spirits, but the weather was so excessivly bad, and the least cold affects me so that I durst not venture abroad. I therefore beg, my dear nephew, that you may make my excuse to my Lord Elchies, that I cannot wait upon him as I us'd to do without risquing my health and my life; but I hope his Lordship will do me the honour to come to this little house and see the Laird of Grant's grandchildren, and a casheir'd Lord whom you know was his Lordship's faithfull friend; but perhaps his Lordship will put me in mind of a distick of Cato's—
>
> Cum fueris fælix, multos numerabis amicos,
> Tempora si fuerunt nubila, solus eris.

There is but one other reference to Lord Elchies in the letters printed in "The Chiefs of Grant," namely, in a letter from Lachlan Grant, writer in Edinburgh, to Ludovick Grant, younger of Grant, dated from Perth, 21st February, 1746, in which is the following paragraph:—"The inclosed I had from Lord E———s, which I was to send by express, but haveing this opportunity of the bearer, I hope it will come as safe to hand."

Lord Elchies, as will be noted from his letters about the time of the Forty-five, was a staunch Hanoverian, in consequence of which the House of Easter Elchies was ransacked by the Jacobite troops, his writs destroyed, and effects carried off. A disturbing incident occurred also at the House of Shank, his Lordship's residence near Edinburgh, respecting which the following account is contained in "The Woodhouselee MS.," pp. 79-80:—

> October 25 (1745). Two of Greenlaw gward, Donald and John Stewarts came and dined with us. . . They gave us accownt of ane accident happened at the howse of Shank. Lord Elches lives ther, and Captain Stewart from Roslen went to that hows in qwest of armes, and when at 12 diner all the party were in the kitchen ane idle fellow, Clerk, a servant in the hows was handling the fyre armes, and drew the tricker of a pistoll. It went off and shot one of the Highlanders throw the head. All the others got up and had cutt the poor servant in pieces, but the Captan getting up from diner came in and called who had killed the man. The servant owned it was he by accident, so the Captan restrained the fury of the others, said he was his prisoner, and sent him in under gward to be tryed at the Abby.

On 8th December, 1746, Lord Elchies had to mourn the loss of his wife, and in Letter LXIX, addressed to Tammore on the 27th of the following month, his bereavement was doubtless uppermost in his mind, when, in reference to Tammore's spouse, he wrote:—

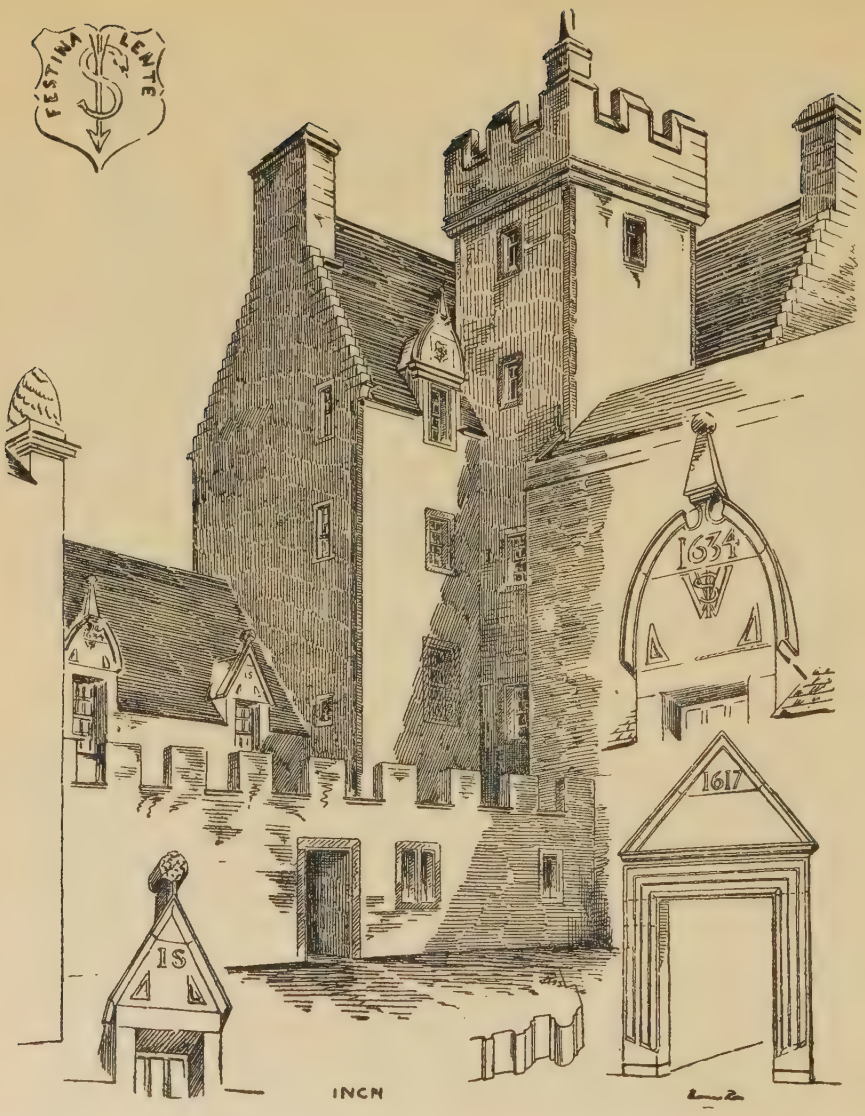
> Great reason have you to take good care of her. Should it ever be your misfortune to lose her, great would you find the affliction.

It is evident that Mrs. Grant possessed a very delicate constitution, which seems to have been transmitted to at least four of her children—David, Mary, Margaret (Peggie) and Helen. The first two predeceased Lord Elchies; the third was alive on 31st December, 1776,[1] but the fourth, who is referred to in "Memorials of a Highland Lady" (p. 21), as "a very delicate woman," nevertheless survived her husband, Patrick Grant of Rothiemurchus, and died at Edinburgh on 12th March, 1791,[2] at an advanced age. She is described in the same work as having been "a good woman and a pretty one." Her portrait is preserved at Rothiemurchus.

By 31st August, 1747, Lord Elchies appears to have taken up his residence at the House of Carberry, the seat of his brother-in-law, Sir Robert Dickson, and continued there until the sale of the property in 1752.

[1] *Vide* p. 28.

[2] "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 507.



The Inch House, near Edinburgh, where Lord Elchies died.

From drawing kindly loaned by Mr. Thomas Ross, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., Edinburgh.

Lord Elchies died at the House of Inch, near Edinburgh, on 27th July, 1754, when the following appreciation of his Lordship appeared in the "Scots Magazine" for that year (p. 357):—

> He was remarkable in private as well as public life, for making his duty the unbiassed rule of his conduct; and has left behind him the character of an honest man, a sincere friend, an able lawyer, a disinterested judge, and a zealous well-wisher to our present happy constitution; and died universally regretted by all those whose esteem, when alive, he would have wished to have gained.

In the "Autobiography of the Rev. Dr. Alexander Carlyle," minister of the parish of Inveresk, there is the following interesting account of his Lordship,[1] in reference to the period subsequent to 1746, in which year Mrs. Grant died:—

> Lord Elchies, a senior Judge, lived at Carberry, in the parish, and was in all respects a most regular and exemplary parishioner. His lady, who was a sister of Sir Robert Dickson's, was dead, and his family consisted of three sons and three or four daughters, unmarried, for some of the elder daughters were married. He came every Sunday with all his family to church, and remained to the afternoon service. As he lived in the House of Carberry, he had the aisle in the church which belonged to that estate, where there was a very good room, where he retired to a cold collation, and took Sir Robert Dickson and me always with him when I did not preach in the afternoon. He was an eminent Judge, and had great knowledge of the law; but though he was held to be a severe character, I found him a man agreeable and good-tempered in society. He attended as an elder at the time that the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered, and followed one practice, in which he was singular. It is the custom for elders to serve tables in sets and by turns, that all may serve and none be fatigued. When it was his turn to retire to his seat, he entered it, as it was close by the communion-table, but never sat down till the elements were removed, which could not be less than an hour and a half. I mentioned this singularity to him one day,

[1] An account of his wife's family, the Dicksons of Inveresk, appears in the same work.

wishing to have it explained, when he said that he thought it irreverent for any one who ministered at the table to sit down while the sacred symbols were present. He removed to the House of Inch, nearer Edinburgh (when an owner[1] came to live at Carberry, about the year 1752), and died of a fever in 1754, being one of nine Judges who died in the course of two years, or a little more. His eldest son was Mr. Baron Grant; his second, Robert, captain of a fifty-gun ship,[2] died young; Andrew, the third, survived his brothers, and died, as the Baron did, in Granada.

For a more elaborate contemporary estimate of Lord Elchies' capacity as a lawyer, we are dependent on Lord Woodhouselee's "Memoirs of the Life of Lord Kames" (Vol. I, 39-40). At the time of Lord Elchies' death, Lord Woodhouselee had not completed his seventh year, and the estimate, therefore, probably mainly represents the sentiments of Lord Kames, who, having been admitted Advocate in January, 1724, and raised to the Bench in February, 1752, was doubtless eminently qualified to testify as to the talent of Lord Elchies; and his opinions respecting the latter were no doubt well known to Lord Woodhouselee, who wrote in the above mentioned work as follows:—

Patrick Grant of Elchies owed his most extensive practice as a barrister to the pure force of his natural abilities. He had a head peculiarly fitted for the investigation of the most intricate points of the law, which his genius developed as by a species of intuition; reducing every question to some great and leading principle, and thence shewing its derivation, either as a necessary corollary, or accounting for its departure from the general axiom upon some obvious ground of exception. It was from him that Mr. Home (as I have heard him frequently acknowledge), learned that habit of logical investigation, which he found of the utmost advantage in the daily practice of his profession as a barrister, and which he carried into all his researches on the subject of law as a science. Assuming it as a fixed position, that every case is governed by some general

[1]On the authority of the same writer, the estate of Carberry was sold to a Mr. Fullerton. P. 259.

[2]"The Falmouth,"

principle (unless it be taken out of the rule by its special circumstances), the only matter of exercise to the mind is the discovery of that principle. When once that is attained, every argument ranges itself in order, as a regular corollary from the proposition, and every objection admits of an easy solution. In this habit lay the chief talent of Elchies; and, conscious of the great advantage which this subjection of all his stores of the law to a few great and ruling principles, gave him over his less scientific competitors, his manner as a barrister was too warm and overbearing to his opponents; a defect which tarnished his great abilities, and attending him even on the Bench, impaired his dignity as a Judge; yet, in that character, his perfect probity, and sincere regard for justice, were confessed by all.

In the same work (Vol. I, 13-4) occurs the following passage regarding Lord Elchies' ability as a lawyer and the extent of his practice at the Bar:—

The knowledge of the law of Scotland was, in those days, usually acquired by private study,[1] that is, by the perusal of Lord Stair's "Institutions," the useful compend under the same title by Sir George Mackenzie, the statute laws, and the reports or decisions of the Court of Session: and the forms of judicial procedure were learned by the daily practice in the Supreme Court. It was likewise customary for the student of law to attach himself to some one of the ablest and best employed Advocates, who allowed him the privilege of attending all his consultations, where he had the benefit of hearing his patron's opinions on nice and intricate cases, or on disputed points of law; and was frequently employed by him in the arranging and analyzing of processes, which it was but little customary at that time, as now, for the solicitor or attorney to reduce into the form of memorial or brief for the counsel. To which of the eminent Advocates of those times Mr. Home attached himself for this useful instruction, I cannot with certainty affirm, but have reason to believe it was to Mr. Patrick Grant, afterwards a Judge of the Court of Session, by the title of Lord Elchies, one of the ablest lawyers of his time, and in the greatest practice as a barrister.

[1]Before the institution of a professorship of the Municipal Law of Scotland in the University of Edinburgh, which took place in 1710, some members of the Faculty of Advocates gave lectures in their own houses to pupils on that science. . .

The "Memoirs of Lord Kames" were published in 1807, and, six years later, Lord Elchies' "Decisions of the Court of Session," from the year 1733 to the year 1754, collected and digested into the form of a Dictionary, were published in two volumes by Mr. William Maxwell Morison, Advocate, who wrote the following interesting "Advertisement" to Vol. I, dated 30th March, 1813:—

> This highly valuable Collection of Reports was lately deposited in the Library of the Faculty of Advocates, by Sir James Montgomery, Bart., in the original MS. of the eminent Judge who composed it. It will be found to be an acquisition to the Profession of very unusual interest. It consists of more than 1600 Cases, a great number of which, although ascertaining important points in Law and Practice, had not been noticed by any other Collector. And, in several instances Lord Elchies has thrown new light on Cases reported by Lord Kilkerran and Lord Kames. Both of these distinguished Reporters bear testimony to the weight which Lord Elchies's opinions deservedly had in the deliverations on the Bench.
>
> Lord Elchies kept a daily record in Notes of the Cases which he considered to be worthy of being remembered; and from these Notes he compiled the Dictionary now published.
>
> Sir James Montgomery presented the Notes also to the Faculty of Advocates; and as they in many instances contain a more particular detail, both of the facts, and of the opinions of the Judges, than appears in the Dictionary, they are referred to, and will be published, as a Supplement to it.
>
> A considerable number of Volumes of Session Papers, relative to the Cases, constituted likewise a part of Sir James Montgomery's valuable gift. . . It is not certain that Lord Elchies intended for the Press this rich store of juridical knowledge. . . but certainly it will do honour to his memory.

Mr. Morison's valuable observations in the Preface to Vol. II, which contains Lord Elchies' Notes, are as follows:—

> Patrick Grant, who sat upon the Bench by the title of Lord Elchies from the year 1732 until the year 1754, appears to have held the highest reputation among his contemporaries, for profound knowledge of law, and great discrimination in applying it to the cases which came before the Court. The

frequent references which Lord Kames makes to his opinion, when he reports the decisions of the Court during that period, makes it evident (and we are assured of the fact by his biographer)[1] that he considered him as the greatest lawyer of his time. The same opinion has been handed down in more vague traditions which have reached the present day.

Lord Elchies's fame as a Judge and a lawyer rested upon these memorials until the Collection of Decisions which is now published was presented to the Faculty of Advocates by a member of their body, who left the Bar much to the regret of the profession by which he was universally esteemed and beloved.[2] Those lawyers who had leisure to consult them in manuscript, were of opinion that they were in every respect worthy of the high reputation which their author possessed, and that their publication would be an important service to the law of Scotland. . .

In this Collection of Decisions it appears to have been Lord Elchies's object to record with the utmost brevity the principle of law decided by the Court, and his great legal powers are shown in the singular ability with which all unnecessary circumstances are rejected, and those alone preserved which entered materially into the Decision. In the Notes, which were intended for the instruction of his son, his Lordship has taken a wider range. In many important causes, he has preserved his own view of the case and those of the leading Judges who differed from him in opinion; and the votes of the Court. The Notes also occasionally contain references to the arguments maintained by the Bar, and discussions on matters connected with the history and antiquities of the law of Scotland, which show great knowledge and discrimination.

In no instances are the Notes more valuable than in those cases where general questions that had been argued before the Court, were either compromised or decided upon other grounds. He has on these occasions recorded in his Notes the state of the question and his own reflections upon it. Thus upon a very trifling question between Sir John Anstruther and the town of Pittenweem, which was decided upon a point of form, his Lordship has preserved a very profound discussion of the rules

[1] Lord Woodhouselee.

[2] Sir James Montgomery, Bart., Lord Advocate in the years 1804, 1805 and 1806.

of interpretation applicable to alternative obligations, and the distinction beween them and those where a penalty is stipulated. It is in those cases alone that the reader will find any deviation from a degree of brevity, unusual in the present age, which distinguishes the Notes, no less than the Decisions.

The Notes are also valuable from the traces they exhibit of the great labour to which Lord Elchies submitted, in order to arrive at sound and general principles of law. His knowledge of matters of form was minute and accurate. Where questions of conveyancing occurred he appears to have given them the most minute and attentive consideration; and where he was convinced that the title was defective, he did not allow considerations of hardship or expediency to deter him from rigidly following the rules of law.

It is difficult to say whether Lord Elchies's judicial powers were more eminent where he decided individually, as a Lord Ordinary, or where he exercised them in conjunction with his brethren in the Inner-House. In the questions which occurred between the Duke of Hamilton and the Earl of Selkirk, after the death of Charles Earl of Selkirk, he pronounced, as Lord Ordinary, ten different interlocutors upon the same day, most of them upon general points relative to the law of succession. Both parties were dissatisfied with these judgments, and brought them first before the Inner-House, and afterwards before the House of Lords. Lord Elchies's judgments were however affirmed by both these tribunals, without any alteration. In the Inner-House, his Lordship appears, on many occasions, to have directed the judgments of the Court. In the question concerning the attainder of Lord Pitsligo he was in the minority. The judgment was however reversed after having been referred to the consideration of the twelve Judges, and is reported by Judge Foster. Although it would not have been surprising, that, in a question no way connected with the municipal law of Scotland, new views should have been started by the great lawyers who argued it for the Crown in the House of Lords, the reversal appears to have proceeded upon the very same argument which Lord Elchies maintained in the Court of Session, and which is stated with great logical precision in his notes upon the case.

. . . . . .

There can be no doubt that Lord Elchies received from nature a most powerful and vigorous understanding, which was peculiarly adapted to legal reasoning; but the work which is now presented to the public shows that he had improved it by the most laborious cultivation. He appears to have considered every case with the most minute attention, and while he rejected whatever was unconnected with the question at issue, he at the same time sifted every circumstance which could affect the point of law, and followed, throughout all its steps, the process of legal reasoning which he had commenced, until he arrived at the general principle which ought to regulate the decision. Not satisfied with attending most diligently to the deliberations of the Judges, he recorded them, where they were of importance, in his notes, and supplied, from the information of his brethren, cases decided while he was absent as Lord Ordinary: He afterwards arranged, in this Dictionary, in systematical order, the general principle determined by the Court. A Judge or a lawyer, who submits to these labours, may no doubt appear to those around him to possess an intuitive knowledge of law; and the powers which he will acquire from such patient and continued cultivation will enable him at once to divest a case of those circumstances which seize hold of rash and hasty reasoners, and distract the judgment of a less vigorous and practised mind.

Few circumstances relative to Lord Elchies's private life or opinions have reached the present day.

Touching Lord Woodhouselee's statement that Lord Elchies' manner was too warm and overbearing to his opponents, Mr. Morison observes:—

As these defects in this eminent character have reached the present times, it must be matter of sincere satisfaction to those who feel zealous for the reputation of the law of Scotland and for the character of its Courts of Justice, that a work has survived him which will bear ample testimony to the higher powers of mind which he possessed, and which, at the same time that it will convey instruction to those who are engaged in the study or practice of the law of Scotland, affords an example of those well directed labours which are calculated to form a great Judge.

Lord Elchies likewise wrote Annotations upon Lord Stair's Institutes, which were also printed in 1824. The Session Papers

belonging to Lord Elchies, now in the Advocates' Library, contain voluminous manuscript notes, which, with the notes of his decisions, etc., also in that establishment, are all in his Lordship's handwriting, and exhibit a wonderful degree of application and industry.

On 27th July, 1754, the day of Lord Elchies' death, Charles Erskine, Lord Tinwald, Lord Justice-Clerk, wrote from Edinburgh to the Earl of Holderness:—

> Mr. Patrick Grant of Elchies, a judge both in the Court of Session and Justiciary dy'd this morning: he was a very diligent and attentive judge, and had acquired great knowledge of our laws, both civil and criminal, so his death is realy a great loss to his Majesty's service and to this part of the countrey. As the nomination to the two gowns, of fitt persons, is truely of importance and deserves to be properly considered, I presumed without loss of time to acquaint your Lordship of this unlucky event.

Lord Elchies' friend, Mr. William Grant, was selected as his successor, both as a Lord of Session and Justiciary.

The portrait of Lord Elchies, reproduced in this volume, is thus described in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery Catalogue:—

> Bust in painted oval, face raised and in three-quarters to right; white wig, rosy face, brown eyebrows, dark blue eyes, crimson and black robe, white cravat, dark background (canvas 29¼ by 24¼ in.). It is signed "A. Ramsay, 1749."

There are two portraits of Lord Elchies, similar to each other, at Rothiemurchus, and another in the Signet Library, Edinburgh. It is understood, however, that these three portraits are copies of that by Ramsay, which Mr. Caw, Curator of the National Portrait Gallery, describes as "a good example of his art." It was presented by D. Pringle, Esquire, in December, 1885.

Lord Elchies had, at least, nine children, and the following particulars respecting the first six of them is derived from "The

Chiefs of Grant," the remaining three not being mentioned in that work.[1] Seven of his children apparently survived him:—

1. John Grant of Easter Elchies, Advocate. He was appointed Sheriff-depute of Elgin and Nairn in 1748, and in October, 1755, a Baron of Exchequer in Scotland, in room of Sir John Clerk of Pennycuik, deceased. On 26th July, 1751, he obtained a charter of resignation of the lands of Easter Elchies. Very shortly after succeeding his father he sold all his lands of Easter Elchies, Rothes, Edinvillie and Keithock, to James, fifth Earl of Findlater and Seafield, by disposition dated 9th December, 1758, recorded the 13th of the same month, and to complete his title, Baron Grant was served nearest heir-male to his grand-uncle, Patrick Grant, in the lands of Edinvillie and Keithock, on 27th March, 1759. The estates were sold with consent of his wife only. He married, on 11th April, 1750 (contract dated 3rd April, 1750), Margaret, eldest daughter of Andrew Fletcher of Salton, Lord Milton. In the contract his father, Lord Elchies, settled his estates upon his son, John. Mrs. Grant died at London, on 6th April, 1775. Baron Grant died at Grenada, where he had extensive sugar estates, on 12th November, 1775. He had no issue, and left all his estates to his only surviving brother, Andrew. Easter Elchies and Rothes still remain the property of the Earls of Seafield, but Edinvillie or Hillhall was acquired by Robert Grant of Wester Elchies, under a disposition dated 20th February and 2nd March, 1790, and recorded on 9th March same year.
2. Robert, second son, entered the Navy, and was appointed Lieutenant in April, 1741. He rose to the rank of Captain, and was in command of one of the British ships stationed in the East Indies, when he died in 1759, without issue.
3. David, who died at Edinburgh on 11th March, 1749, without issue.

[1]Shaw, in his "History of the Province of Moray," mentions that "James Grant, brother to Easter Elchies," held at one time, in mortgage, the property known as Achnahyle, in the parish of Kirkmichael; and Sir William Fraser has, in "The Chiefs of Grant," without warrant, included this James amongst Lord Elchies' sons; he was probably identical with James Grant, brother of Lord Elchies' father, whom Sir William states is mentioned in a document dated 10th March, 1687; and with James Grant of Achnahyle, mentioned in a List of heritors of Strathavon, etc., in 1699; and in the Court Books of the Regality of Grant under date of 3rd December, 1725.

4. Andrew, who was for some time a Banker in Edinburgh. Surviving all his brothers, he became heir to the property of Baron Grant in 1775. He married Allan, eldest daughter of Thomas Fordyce of Ayton, and died in the Island of Grenada, on 27th November, 1779, leaving issue:—

   (1) John, who, in a deed of entail made by Patrick Grant of Rothiemurchus, of date 28th November, 1787, is designed eldest son of the deceased Andrew Grant, late merchant in Edinburgh, who was son of the deceased Patrick Grant of Elchies, one of the Senators of the College of Justice.

   (2) Allan, designed in the Rothiemurchus entail as second son of the deceased Andrew Grant.

   (3) Robert, also called in the said entail, and designed third son of Andrew Grant.

   (4) Captain Charles, R.N., C.B., who, in the entail of Rothiemurchus, is designed fourth and only other son of Andrew Grant. On 29th January, 1816, he obtained a patent of arms to him and his heirs-male. He was then the only surviving son.

1. Helen, who married, on 24th December, 1746, Patrick Grant, younger of Rothiemurchus, whom she survived, and died without issue, at Edinburgh, on 12th March, 1791.

2. Isabella, mentioned in the Testament of Mrs. Helen Grant, relict of Patrick Grant, in 1791, as sister-german of defunct and only executor-dative *qua* nearest in kin. She is then said to be residing in South Hanover Street, Edinburgh.

3. Margaret, referred to in Letters LXIII, LXV, LXVI and LXXXIV; *vide* also her letter to Tammore (App. No. XCVI); apparently she was alive on 31st December, 1776, it being stated in a letter of that date to Tammore from his son, William, reporting the death of Baron Grant, that the latter had "left all his effects to his brother and his heirs, burdened only with £25 additional annuity to Miss Peggy Grant, and £200 to the poor."

4. Mary, twice referred to in Letter LXIX, seems to have died at that time.

5. Barbara, referred to in Letter XXVIII, and *vide infra*.

Lord Elchies is buried in Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh, where there is a monument to him with the following inscription, viz.:—

Patrick Grant of Elchies, Esq., born 1691 (*sic*), appointed Lord of Session 1732, and of Justiciary 1736 (*sic*) died 1754.

Margaret, his wife, daughter to Sir Robert Dickson of Inveresk, Baronet, born 1693, died 1746.

Barbara Grant, their daughter, born 1729, died 1759.

David Grant, their son, born 1731, died 1747 (*sic*).

Mary Grant, their daughter, born 1735, died 1747.

Elizabeth Grant, daughter to Andrew Grant, their son, by Allan, daughter of Thomas Fordyce of Ayton, Esq., born 1761, died 1770.

Tammore survived for nineteen years after the death of Lord Elchies, the "Scots Magazine" for April, 1773, containing the following obituary notice:—

At Tammore, in the 90th year of his age, Robert Grant, Esq: of Tammore.

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Madam

Elchies May 27th
1726

Betwixt and Lambmas next deliver or cause to be deliverd to Lewis Grant brother german to John Grant of Delrachnie att Belntomb in Inverallan the number and quantity of sixty two bolls & one half boll of good & sufficient oat meal after the rate of nine stone weight the boll whensoever he calls for and sends pocks for the samen he giving you one free days advertisement before you send the meal from this place I say deliver the above meal value received from the said Lewis Grant by

Your affect son

P. G

To The Lady Easter Elchies

Accepts Elizabeth Grant

Fac-simile of Lord Elchies' First Letter, shewing his Mother's signature.

No. I.

Elchies, May 27th, 1726.

Madam,

Betwixt and Lambmas next deliver or cause to be deliver'd to Lewis Grant,[1] brother german to John Grant of Delrachnie, att Belntomb in Inverallan, the number and quantity of sixty two bolls and one half boll of good and sufficient oatmeal, after the rate of nine stone weight the boll, whensoever he calls for and sends pocks for the samen, he giving you one free day's advertisement before you send the meal from this place: I say deliver the above meal value received from the said Lewis Grant by

your affect: son,

P. G[RANT].

To The Lady Easter Elchies.

Accepts.

ELIZABETH GRANT.[2]

No. II.

Dear Robert,

I am oblig'd to you for one or two letters since my last, and have by your advice laid aside thoughts of sending north any other governour to my children this year. I had a letter from Mr. Niddry asking more wages, and making also some insinuations about his power of correcting them; but I think it best to make no

[1]Lewis is not mentioned in the Dalrachnie pedigree in "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 527.

[2]Mrs. Grant was a sister of John Roy Grant, the last of the first Grants of Ballindalloch; her other brothers were Patrick of Pitchaish, who m. Mary Strachan, and d. 13th May, 1709; their dau., Mary, m. Rev. James Lumsden of Corrachree; Rev. William, who m. Anna, eldest dau. of Geo. Lundie of Drumes, Alexander of Achmadies, George and Robert; her sisters were ———, Margaret and Jean.

answer, and take no notice at all of the letter till I go north: I shall be glad to find he deserves the wages he getts. I doubt not Delrachny[1] has before now shown you the letter I writt him about my meal. Coll: Grant[2] wrote me last post a very agreeable piece of news—that I gett at least 8£ the boll, and tho' Delrachny's silence and yours makes me take the Coll's news to be a joke, yet I have some hopes what's spoken in jest may come to be earnest if the highland prices encrease proportionally with those of the low countrey. Troup[3] this very day refus'd 8 Ms the boll—8 stone—deliverable att Frasersburgh, and a short term for payt, and by all I can learn ther seems to be a pretty great scarcity over all; so that the last cropt will with diffaculty serve till wee gett the new: however, I leave it wholly to Delrachny and you to sell mine to the best advantage ye can, and only intreat you'l write me what's a doing with it. I had this day a letter from my mother, to whom you'l forward the inclosed. I wish Delrachny or you wou'd purchass the deals my wife commission'd, for shoud they lye seven years att Elchies before they be wrought, they wou'd be much the better for use. I am, dear Robin,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Edr, May 25th, 1727.

[1]John Grant of Dalrachnie: in 1694 he was an ensign in Lord John Murray's Regiment of Foot ("Mil. Hist. of Perthshire," p. 25). He succeeded his father, Alexander Grant of Dalrachnie; he obtained, in 1706, from the Laird of Grant, a wadset of Wester Duthil, Beananach and Inchlum, redeemable for 4,466 merks. In 1720 he was bailie of the Regality of Grant, and is said to have been also bailie of the Regality of Gordon. In 1733 he obtained a charter of parts of the barony of Corriemony. He died in 1735, and was succeeded by his son, Alexander. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 527.

[2]Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch, 2nd son of James Grant, 3rd of Rothiemurchus. He married Anne, 2nd daughter of Lud. Grant of Grant (contract of marriage dated 30th October, 1711), and about the same time acquired the lands of Ballindalloch, Tullochcarron and others, from John Grant of Ballindalloch and his creditors. He raised one of the independent Highland companies, which were afterwards incorporated into the 42nd Regiment of Infantry, known as the "Black Watch." He died in May, 1733, and was succeeded by his son, Alexander, "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 511.

[3]Alexander Garden of Troup, in Banffshire, father of Francis, Lord Gardenstone, by Jane, daughter of Sir Francis Grant of Cullen.

I *long* much to see you here. The Coll. is to blame for not sending his daurs: he may chance to lose the place my wife provided for them.[1] Tell the Coll. I shall obey his ler, tho' I have not now time to write him and answer; and putt him in mind of his promise to my wife when in the north about a minister to Knockando.[2]

No. III.

Dear Rot.,

Yours of the 1st inst by Coll: Grant's soger, with the 200£ st you sent to answer your bill, came to hand yesterday, and gave me great pleasure. I did not keep the money a quarter of one hour before I pay'd your bill, tho' by the good luck of Montblarie's[3] having a concern in it, I cou'd have been easy tho' the money had not come this ten days; but Mr. McPherson[4] being still in town, I have pay'd the money to himself, and retired the bill discharg'd. I hope besides retiring my bonds from the crers you pay'd, you have also taken discharges; and I assure you I think myself exceedingly oblig'd to you for your anxiety to haveing debts pay'd; and had I no other use for money here than for my family's charge, I don't know whether, notwithstanding all the disappointments I have mett with this term, I might not have sent you twice or thrice as much as you demand; neither do I know whether I

[1]The concern taken by Mrs. Grant in the welfare of Colonel Grant's daughters is also shown by the following passage in a letter from William Thomson, "Governour" to Colonel Grant's son, Alexander, addressed to Tammore, and dated from Edinburgh on 13th November, 1729—"The young ladies are certainly improving, tho' perhaps not so fast as might be wish'd. The Lady Elches designs to settle them in a boarding school, because there were some complaints of their not attending on their sowing: whether this will be to their advantage or not, I cannot tell; but my Lady Elches does it for the best, and she is a very good judge."

[2]The Rev. James Gordon, minister of the parish of Knockando, died 6th January, 1726. He was succeeded by the Rev. Hugh Grant, schoolmaster of Alves, ordained 1st June, 1727, died 18th September, 1763. Shaw's "Hist. of Province of Moray" (Gordon's Edition), Vol. III, 372. *Vide* App. Nos. XIII, LIX.

[3]Andrew Hay of Mountblairy, W.S.

[4]Duncan Macpherson, factor to the Laird of Braco (William Duff, afterwards Lord Braco and Earl of Fife). *Vide* No. II, Part II.

mayn't possibly answer your demand agst the vacance; but I must part small and serve all; and I must first see what demands may be upon me here: tho' I can't pay all my debt in one day, I assure you I'm very willing. And besides the 400 Ms you drew for paytt to Achmades,[1] I have also pay'd the 48 sh. st. you desired me to pay to Geo. Gordon,[2] and for which you must likewise give me credite. My wife, who, I thank God, is pretty well recover'd, says if ye cou'd gett all I have north to pay debt, she believes you wou'd not leave her a groat to buy her supper. Pray give the Coll. my most hearty thanks for saving me the expense of ane express, and att the same time giving me so safe a bearer; I have however given him a crown, which was the most I thought I cou'd give otherwise than paying him as ane express, which possibly a gentleman of the army might have taken amiss; but if you think it too litle you may give him more, and state it to my account. You'l receive inclos'd James Grant in Dell's receipt for the 4000Ms, that he may give you up yours as you desired. For as well as the meal sells, give my service to Delrachny, and tell him I don't purpose to free him of his wonted trouble: I cant doubt the prices in the highlands will rise in proportion, but in all events, I dont incline to alter my mercat. I have heard a complaint that Wm. McKondachie[3] keeps a meetinghouse, forsooth! in his house, and, as I'm told, drains the Kirk[4] pretty much; and I doubt not it may have that effect: mankind is commonly given to novelties, and for the most part likes what is forbidden them. However, you'l discharge that practice in time coming; ther must be no meetinghouses in my ground; and wherever else it is, all my tennents must keep the kirk; and tell Mr. Duff[5] he's to blame he

[1]John Cruickshank, Chamberlain to the Laird of Grant at Mulben, Boharm.

[2]Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh, and agent for Colonel William Grant.

[3]*Vide* App. No. LIII.

[4]Kirk of Aberlour.

[5]Rev. Robert Duff, minister of parish of Aberlour; ordained in March, 1719; admitted 21st October; died 15th July, 1738. Shaw's "Moray," Vol. III, 375. *Vide* App. No. VII.

did not complain to myself of that abuse, for it's but very lately I heard it. I am, in heast,

dear Robin,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Edr, Jary 10, 1728.

No. IV.

Dear Rot.,

I have a ler from Tombea[1] confirming the news of Ld. Strathmore's[2] death, and th[at] upon it, Montblery[3] was call'd south by express on Wednesday last. This prevents my meeting with Lettoch[4] att this time, so that I have now litle or nothing to do in this country except the few things ye kno[w], and that I cannot do without your ass[ist]ance; and therefor I design to take jour[ney] next Munday morning att farthest, and, if possible, sooner. I hope this express will find you return'd from Strathspey, and I have sent to begg you'l immediately come down here and lett me go from this place. Pray ma[ke] my compliments to Megg up by;[5] and I hope ye have told her it was none of my fau[lt] that I did not wait of her to ask her forgiveness for carrying you so oft from home. I am, dr. Rot.,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Elchies, May 21, 1728.

[1]Alexander Stuart of Tombea, Glenlivet, Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh.

[2]Charles, 4th Earl of Strathmore and 6th Earl of Kinghorn, died 11th May, 1728, of an accidental wound received two days before. "The Scottish Nation," Vol. III, 534.

[3]Andrew Hay, W.S., Edinburgh.

[4]Perhaps Lettoch, in parish of Abernethy. Marjory, daughter of Patrick Grant of Edinvillie, granduncle of Mr. Grant, married James Grant of Lettoch. *Vide* Nos. LXXIV and LXXV.

[5]Probably Tammore's wife, Margaret, daughter of George Cumming, yr. of Recletich, is here referred to. There was a George Cumming "in Tammore" in 1727, who may have been Tammore's father-in-law.

No. V.

[J. D.]

Dear Robert,

I have yours of the 28th ultimo, and I am verie glad of the accounts you give me of your own Dandalieth[1] project: pray goe on and prosper. As to making inclosures in the muir—as that is ane improvement also of your own diviseing who understands it much better than I ever will doe—I must leave it whollie to yourselfe to do in it what you think reasonable; and no doubt you'l have one thing under consideration, and that is: If I shall be oblidged to give out expences on costlie improvements in ditching and fenceing, that you must fall upon a way of reimbursing those expences; I mean that in that case I can't let it at the rate I could have done without being at those charges. I have no sort of doubt that inclosing the ground as you propose, will be a verie good improvement; besides, that it will add considerablie to the looks of the ground; and if, by the rood that you can have at three shillings sterling and two pecks of meall, you mean the long rood of 36 elnes in length, I think its a good bargain; and I would furthwith make ane experiement of about 300 elns squair, which would contain about 16 acker, and will, after that rate, cost me about ffive pound sterling of money, and ffour bolls two pecks of victuall; and I would likewise plant the ditch in the inside with thorns, saughs, and different sorts of barren timber, to make a shelter as well as a fence as soon as possible, and which the tennent behoved to be oblidged to preserve as well as the ditch. If this is the rate you mean, it comes in my way of compting onlie to about three half pennies the eln, which I think will also be the cheapest way I can make the subdivisions in the haugh of Dandalieth; and I fancie I don't mistake your meaning, because if you meant onlie the short rood of six elns long, that would be just six times the price, which

[1]On Mr. Grant's estate in parish of Rothes, and one of "the four fairest farms on the banks of the Spey."

I could by no means affoord, either in the muir or in the haugh: £30 st. of money, and betwixt 24 and 25 bolls meall would be too great ane expence, besides the planting for inclosing sixteen acker of ground. And, if I guess your meaning right, I dont care tho' you would furthwith make the experiement wt'out waiting anie further approbation from me, that is, if you think the profite will answer the expense.

I had a line from Dalrachnie with Mr. Baillie's[1] bill: he tells me he has sold of about three score bolls more of my meall at the old price. The young lad I sent north to the children is certainlie with you long before now; pray make your observations how he behaves, and write me your opinion about him. The wieghts you write for shall be sent you by the first sure occasion to Spey, ffindhorn, or Portsoy. Pray give my most humble service to Megg up by; and I am,

dr. Robert,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Edinr, 11th Jullie, 1728.

No. VI.

Dear Robert,

You have been commonly so punctual and full in your correspondence, that now, tho' I have been some posts without any letters, I dare not complain till I hear your excuse. I hope your man Leslie's[2] suspension came to him in good time. Tho' Ringorm[3] wou'd not allow me so small a favour as I asked for Lesly, I never will serve him nor any tenent as my neighbour did,

[1]Perhaps John Baillie of Torbreck. *Vide* Part II, No. III.

[2]Robert Leslie. *Vide* App. No. XV.

[3]Robert Grant of Ringorm, parish of Knockando. On the death of Colonel John Grant of Carron at Cartagena in 1741, he claimed the estate as his heir-male, but died in January, 1743, before he could make out his title. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 524.

yet I hope Ringum wont take it amiss that I endeavour to keep Lesly in the possession as long as the law can entitle him to it; which I think will att least be till Whits. next, and I hope a year longer. However, I own I did not like the precedent of undertaking my tenent's disputes for such triffles, upon my own charges, and therfor accepted of your offer of letting John Dingwal[1] place the expenses to your account; taking it for granted ye know how to be reimburs'd; but as for my own personal service, I assure you Lesly shal have it cost free. Meantime take care that Ringum don't steal a march on us by taking out a protestation the beginning of Novr before you return the suspension; and therfore, after you have intimated it to him personally under form of instrumt, if he wont come to ane agreemt on reasonable terms, you'l return the suspension in due time to John Dingwall. I have been very often beating my brains to find out by what means, or on what pretence, the Magistrates of Elgin have sett John Sime[2] att liberty; but have not all this time writt to any mortal about it; expecting to have had it explained either by you or the Coll. I remember, indeed, last summer I had a letter from Sandie Delrachny,[3] and inclos'd in it a copy of a petition by him to, I think, Magistrates, praying they wou'd order my mother to aliment him; with ane order by them to intimate to her; but I can't imagine the men wou'd be madd enough to sett att liberty one comitted for murder on pretence of the informers not alimenting the prisoner; or if they have, they must forgive me to have them tryed instead of him: they'l do well to find out what law gives them that power. The truth is, the

[1]He appears to have been in Mr. Grant's employ. *Vide* App Nos. XV and XX. Letters Nos. V, X, XII, XIII, XV, XVI and XIX, are in Dingwall's handwriting, and signed by Mr. Grant. In a letter, dated 14th November, 1751, "John Dingwal wryter in Edr" is mentioned.

[2]"February 20th (1727). Baillie Anderson on 18th inst. receaved ane mittimus signed be Collonel William Grant of Ballandallach as ane Justice Peace of the Shire of Elgin for receaveing the body of John Sim, sometime merchant in Keith, for the alleadged crimes mentioned in the mittimus. The said John Sim was receaved prisoner in the tolbooth upon the 18th inst." "Records of Elgin" (New Spalding Club), Vol. I, 424.

[3]Alexander Grant, younger, of Dalrachnie.

thing to me appear'd so ludicrous, that I did not mind it so much as to return Sandie ane answer. I had also another letter from Achoynany,[1] shewing that they had allowed him the liberty of the whole prison; and if it was by that means he made his escape, I think I shall have both them and him fair before the wind; and I am att the greater loss to find out the means of his liberation, because of what ye write me of his visiting openly in the contrey. Wherefor I intreat you'l write me fully and particularly what is in this matter; and tell Coll: Grant that I begg the same favour of him: I woud have writt to him by this post; but I have so many letters to write, that I shall not have time.

I fear I shall be disappointed of my project of serving the Y B[2] horses in hay, for Coll: Horsey[3] tells me he expects against next year, by the additionall farms he has gott in Abernethy, to have as much hay as will serve them. Mr. Strachy tells me he wanted to buy the litle hay my mother has att Elchies, and I think he shou'd have it att a reasonable price, provided alwise ther be enough of other provender for my plough of oxen you was to buy for me. I thought also to have made a bargain with them for my meal for some years. I talk'd of it to Troup and Mr. Strachy, who seem'd to relish it very well; but they have been so busy that I did not propose it to Coll. Horsey: the truth is I wanted to have the proposal come from him, since I doubt not Stracy wou'd tell him of it. However, you may chance to make a bargain with Stracy in the north, since I don't see how they can be serv'd so well otherwise; he tells me it has hitherto cost them £6 16sh Scots the boll, att 8 stone. Delrachny writes me he has made no bargain

[1]Thomas Grant of Achoynanie, in parish of Keith. *Vide* No. V, Part II.

[2]The notorious York Buildings Company, with which Colonel Samuel Horsey was connected. *Vide* Dr. W. Forsyth's "In the Shadow of Cairngorm."

[3]Presumably Samuel Horsey, appointed on 14th September, 1715, Lieut. and Lieut.-Col. of the Fourth Troop of Horse Guards, of which the Earl of Dundonald was Captain and Colonel; and in 1738 made Governor of South Carolina, but died suddenly at his house in Whitehall on 18th August, 1738, whilst about to proceed to the Colony. "Cal. Mer.," 10th and 24th August, 1738.

with Coll: Guest,[1] who seems very fond of it, and recomends it to me to make it; but I'm afraid I shall not have ane oportunity. I wrote Delrachny that, considering these demands for it, I wou'd fain have half a guinea the boll att 8 stone: you know that makes even counting without fractions. However, I think, in all events, it's my interest the method, in any new tacks I sett, that I took in Geo: Davidson's[2]—of converting as much money to meal as I can —for I don't think ther's any great probability that meal will fall so low as it has been: it has alwise been on the rising hand since the Union, and ther's a very good cause for it; and considering my scituation, and the assistance of my good friends above me, its hard, if one way or other, I don't gett sale for all of it to the highlands.

You wrote me some time ago that my mother and the children were very well pleas'd with their tutor: I wish you wou'd enquire particularly into all the steps of his conduct, and lett me know whether they continue in the same sentiment, and what is your own opinion. What makes me so solicitous about this just now is a story I had from the English people, that they were witnesses to all their hunting in Strathspey, where the children and Mr. Bell also were; they tell me they saw him strike Johnie[3] on the face with his closs fist without any other provocation than that the poor boy call'd him master. Shou'd I seem to know this story, I must inevitably turn him off immediately; and you know it's a great loss to children to change their teachers often; which makes me not mention it to any but yourself, and to begg you would enquire particularly, and inform me of all the parts of his conduct before I do anything. I own to you I have seen so many dismall effects of the surly tempers of the governours of children, that this

[1]Barrack Master General in Scotland, 11th January, 1726; "Brigr. Genl. and Commander of the Forces in this Country," "Cal. Mer.," 9th October, 1738; *interim* Commander of the Forces, *ibid.*, 10th May, 1739; Major-General, 2nd July, 1739; afterwards Lieutenant-General; noted in relation to the defence of Edinburgh Castle in 1745.

[2]*Vide* App. No. LIII.

[3]Mr. Grant's eldest son.

story frightens me not a litle; and tho' these shou'd not happen, ther are other consequences that seldom faill to attend such usage, that it makes the children contract a dislike to their book, and a terror of, and ane aversion to all governours in general. I told Mr. Bell that he cou'd never hope for any success with these children unless he first gain'd their affections to himself, and that one of the great faults I had to Niddrie, was his morose, sullen temper; and if I don't very much mistake poor Johnie's temper, I am perswaded one fair word will make him do more than twenty beatings; and it must certainly be a good deal of ill-nature that has made him use the children so after he was putt upon his guard not to splitt on the same rock with his predecessor: I shall therefor be impatient till I hear from you, for if Bell's temper be such as I hear it is, he must not stay one minute longer with them.

You have not told me whether Ardross[1] is to pay his money; if you have not heard from him you'll write to him in the most pressing manner about it. Pray give my service to Your Megg. My wife has been much distrest this great while; but, I thank God, she's in a fair way of recovery. She went yesterday to Carberry,[2] where I believe I shall follow her this day. I am, dr. Rot.,

yours,

Edr, Septr 14th, 1728. P. GRANT.

No. VII.

Dear Rot,

The prospect your last of the 7th inst. gives me of the payt of prinll sums att this term is but very melancholy; and as to my

[1]Murdoch Mackenzie of Ardross, married Margaret, sister of Mr. Grant's father. Probably a son of that marriage is here referred to. *Vide* App. No. IX.

[2]The seat of her brother, Sir Robert Dickson, Bart., beautifully situated on the slope of the hill, embosomed amid its orchards and venerable groves of oak, chestnut and beech, commanding a noble prospect to the westward, and also of the Firth of Forth. It was built more as a fortalice than as a mansion, but about 1819 underwent changes and improvements, adapting it to the comforts of modern times, and is now the seat of Sidney Herbert, 16th Baron Elphinstone.

making remittances, I cannot bid you depend on a shilling. I never had more demands upon me than since I came last south, and ther's scarce such a thing as money to borrow. I believe of my own moey I have pay'd out £140 st over the expense of my family, and John Baillie's bill; and for all that, have still more to answer; so you need not wonder I have hitherto remitted you no money; and tho' I have above £500 st due me here, I cannot depend upon a farthing of it. It's true ther's one owes me above £250 that has for some time promis'd it every term, but I cannot rely upon it; and if I should gett it, I'm not certain I shall not have use for it here. However, I hope you'l be able to pay some prinll sums. I wish you wou'd send me a note of what @ rents are due; its certainly necessary for making me easy in the meantime not to lett any of them run on too long, but that's not the speediest way to sink the debt: therefor I need not recomend to you to pay all the prinll sums you can. But I hope the @ rents will in no event exhaust what falls due att Mart twixt my money rent, the price of victual due from the highlands, the money of my woods, and Ardross's bond; which last I hope will answer, and you may write pressingly for it, and tell him I gave it you for your reimbursement of money you had advanced for me, and that you must do dilligence, and that I hope will make him pay it. I approve of your resolution of paying Ruthrie[1] and the Kirk Session of Kinnoire;[2] but I wish you cou'd fall on some expedient of working out my relief agst Lewis Innes, for whom I not only pay this last debt, but have also pay'd £20 st more for him here, for which my father was bound for him to Bishopmiln;[3] for if you cannot help me, I must e'en putt it on the backside of my count book. By what I have writt you, ye may guess I am not att pnt very rife of silver; but it shall be very scarce if I refuse the demand

[1]In parish of Aberlour, long occupied by a branch of the Grants.

[2]The parish of Huntly is formed by the union of the old parishes of Kinnoir and Dunbennan.

[3]John Dunbar of Burgie, Advocate; he died about 1750, and his son, John Dunbar, sold the estate to James Robertson, Provost of Elgin. Robert Young's "The Parish of Spynie," p. 81.

for your horse price.[1] When you sow any grass seeds, to be sure it must be with the last cropt of corn, but the ground must first be lim'd; and when you want them, write me; and I will send them. I'm told the clay kilns burn best in harvest: Sr Rot Dickson[2] burnt one in the summer, but chose to delay the rest till after harvest when the ground wou'd not be so dry. I wrote you a long letter by last post, and I'm impatient till I have your answer. I am,

dear Rot,
yours,
P. Grant.

Edr, Septr 19th, 1728.

No. VIII.

Dear Rot.,

This serves chiefly to cover the inclosed bill of £20 . . . by Grant on the chamberlane, which I have indors'd to you; and tho' it is only payll att Cand. next, yet he told me if Sandie cou'd pay it sooner, he woud; and I fancy you and he together will make it answer wh[en] you will. Mr. Houstoun[3] called once for the eight gu[i]neas—the price of your horse—when I was very busy in Grant's, but he was to leave a receipt with a friend to gett the money; and when I have remit[ted] you these two small sums, I assure you I think, *considera[tis] considerandis*, I have done a great deal: I wish I may not against Mart. be forc'd to draw back a part of it from you.

Yesterday I receiv'd yours of the 26th, and very luck[ily] found the papers my mother sent me six years ago abt Robie Lesly;[4] which, with those inclos'd in your last, I gave to John

[1] *Vide* No. VIII.

[2] Sir Robert Dickson of Carberry, Mr. Grant's brother-in-law. *Vide* Part II, No. VIII.

[3] Patrick Houstoun, Dean. *Vide* App. No. X.

[4] *Vide* App. No. LIII.

Dingwal. He cant have tim[e] to gett a suspension past and expede before the post goes away; but I have order'd, if he can, to send you the bill with a gift of execution, for a fortnight or month, as he can gett it. I long to ge[tt] a full answer of my former letters. I am,

d Rot,
yours,

Edr., Octr 3rd, 1728. P. GRANT.

No. IX.

Dear Rot.,

I am very glad of the accounts you give me of Mr. Bell's behaviour. It has made me easy about the idle story that I heard happen'd in Strathspey, and likewise to lay aside thoughts of changing him, which is neither very agreeable to my inclinations, nor for the children's interest.[1] He has lately writt his own justification to my wife with large encomiums of the bairns, and acknowledgements of my mother's civilities to him. But ther was another story I heard—but which I hope is as groundless as the former—namely, that he refuses to teach Tibie,[2] pretending he was engaged only to teach my sons, and that therefor she is to be sent to Rothes.[3] You may inform yourself of this, and, if its true, you may assure him that tho' my sons' education is, to be sure, his prinll business, yet I shal never have a tutor to any of my children that will not teach all of them as farr as he can and I desire him. I wait impatiently your account of the improvements as well as your answer to what I some time ago wrote you about Mr. Sime.

[1]On 10th January, 1729, William Thomson wrote to Tammore:—"This Lady (Mrs. Patrick Grant), is but very tender, and has been but litle abroad this winter. Neither she nor Elches were so much allarmed about Bell as I expected. They had much the same opinion of it that yow and I had, and providing he can agree with the old lady, they have no inclination to change him while the children are in the north."

[2]Mr. Grant's daughter, Isabella.

[3]The barony of Rothes formed part of Mr. Grant's patrimony.

I obey'd your orders by your last of the 25th ulto., and have inform'd myself, by two considerable merchts, what might be the charge of sending victual to Belfast.[1] It signifies litle whether you freight by the boll or tun, because however the charter-partie is conceiv'd, both you and the skipper will make your computations both ways; and it's thought, because of the danger of the voyage, you can't well propose to send a ship there before the end of March or Aprile; and the least you can send is about fiftie tun; and they reckon about ten bolls bear, or twenty of meal, to the tun. One of these gentlemen thought the freight and charges wou'd come to about twenty pence the boll of meal, and fourtie the bear; but the other, upon whose knowledge I depend more (because I believe he has more experience in that sort of trade), computed you might have freight and charges for about fifeteen pence the boll of meal, and half a crown the boll of bear. But you have this disadvantage, that—as ther can be no returns from Ireland—the whole of the freight will fall on the outward cargo, if att least you dont cause the ship touch att some of our isles, and take in slate in her return. And you must also consider that the freight may happen to vary a litle, as our ships happen to be well or ill employ'd when you come to freight one. You have the premium upon export att the rate of half a crown per quarter; and they reckon two bolls of meal to one quarter, and four bolls bear to three quarters, which comes to 15sh Scots the boll of meal, and 22½ the boll of bear: so that by the last computation of freight and charges, the premium of the meal will pay them, but in the bear it will fall short 7½sh Scots the boll. And as to the prices, I really believe, tho' wee have no penury, they will be pretty high. I find a great demand for barley: I know some of the countrey sold at £8: 12. The price in Perthshire and Stirlingshire is £7: 10 pay'd before delivery; and what has been brought from Stirling to Leith has sold att £8, and to be sure the meal must rise in

[1]Tammore's enquiry was in consequence of a request by Major Lewis Grant (afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis Grant of Dunphail) to be informed as to the cost of freight of meal from Leith to Belfast.

proportion. Scotstarbet,[1] I hear, has for his own hand, bought 10,000 bolls of barley (I assure you thers's not a cypher too many), and he has seall comissions to buy more for him in Angus and Mearns, and all for export. He has offered £5 the boll overhead for Caithnes meal and bear, which has also been offer'd by others; but the Caithnes Lairds wont sell under eight merk, so I reckon our meal may give ten merks ready money for eight stone. A friend of mine told me lately he had a commission to try att what rate meal might be had in the north countrey, to be carried about to the west countrey, which he judged was also design'd for Ireland. I could not inform him of the prices further than that I fancy'd they might be about ten merks, but desired he wou'd write to his employers to know what they wou'd allow, and, if they came that length, I wou'd lett him have mine, provided my friends in the countrey approv'd of it, and perhaps might gett him as much more as he wanted: he did accordingly write but has as yet gott no return. I thought proper to write you all I cou'd hear of the prices, that ye may make the best use of it you can, and as a reason for my desiring you wou'd acquaint me how much I cou'd sell of my own, and whether I cou'd venture to sell more upon the chance of buying it from others, and att what rate. The sooner ye write me the beter, because the victual mercat is very uncertain and ticklish. I am, dear Robine,

your own,

P. Grant.

Edr, Novr. 7th, 1728.

I can't think of doing dilligence agst Ardross; but you may write him if the money is not pay'd, you'l raise dilligence without waiting orders.

[1]David Scott of Scotstarvet, Advocate (son of David Scott of Scotstarvet, died 1718), was long a member of the Imperial Parliament. He died in 1766.

No. X.

[J. D.]

Dear Robert,

I protest I dont remember those manie letters you have writt me without receiving ane answer, or the tacks that you wanted directions for settleing, if it is not Leslie in Breachill.[1] I own I am not verie good at answering letters, especiallie in Session time, when I have a pretence of bussieness for my excuse; and I likewise acknowledge the recept of yours of the 10th of December without ane answer, besides your last one by the bearer: But if it is not that one, I think I have been prittie punctuall to you, and if I should at anie time neglect to write, I think you need not wait for directions about setting of tacks, especiallie ones of so little moment; for you verie well know that I can give you no other directions in such matters then by leaving them intirelie to your own manadgment, since you understand them far better then I can pretend to doe.

I must, however, acknowledge I am to blame for not sending north the wieghts; but if they are not sent by the first ship—which I suppose will be noe earlier then sometime in the spring—you must blame the writer[2] of this letter, to whom I have recomended to put me in mind of it.

You may be sure I'le approve of the payts. you have made of my debts; and I onlie wish you would have made these payts. twice as great. However, the best man in the Mearns can do noe more then he may;[3] and I hope, even by these small payments, sometime or other, to get free of them all. If you had sent me a draught of the bill you would have had me give Dorrothea Stuart[4]

[1] In parish of Rothes.

[2] John Dingwall. *Vide* Note to No. VI.

[3] A well-known old Scottish expression.

[4] "Dorothea Stewart" was a witness of the baptism on 12th November, 1706, of Dorothea, daughter of William Davidson and Grissell Gordon, and of the baptism on 4th March, 1707, of James, son of George Davidson and Margaret Gordon, "Dundurcas Par. Regr."

in place of the one you have given her, you would have got it returned you by the bearer. However, I think it does not much signifie whether she has yours or mine, since, if please God we all live, you must be her paymaster; but I cant but pitie the poor woman that has in this manner mouldred away what her husband left her. However, I have noe concern in that matter.

Whether I can see you next vaccance, or not, is reallie more then I can determine. My wife continues still exceeding tender; and tho' she uses allwise to be the better of her journeyes north, yet, by all the advice I can get, I am afraid it would be dangerous to venture a journey with her in her present condition; and I likewise fear there would be no less difficultie in leaving her. I am at the same time much troubled for the accounts you give me of my mother's indisposition. I am so verie sensible that I would gain little by her death, that, without regaird to the tyes of gratitude and naturall affection—which at present seems but to be verie little regairded by the most part of mankind—I am sure she saves me much more everie year then all her small jointure can amount to: so that I have nothing wherupon I can value myself for wishing the continuance of her life and health.

I have, hitherto, made no bargain for my victuall, nor doe I preciselie know, were I to make a bargain, the quantitie I could venture to dispose of; nor whether my mother could give me oat meall for the bear meall that is paid out of the Miln of Rothes, tho' I believe, with some little labour, I might find out the quantitie from the rentall I have by me. The prices in this place have no appearance of falling suddenlie; the accounts we have dailie from England, as well as from Ireland, of the scarcetie in these places, and the miserable state of the poor people, are verie deplorable; and I have heard of severall more commissions from the west countrie, which I fancie is intended some part of it for Ireland: however I know not at what rate I should sell, and I wish you had given me some advice about it in case I should happen to make anie bargain, which however is not verie probable. John Baillie[1] in this toun spoke to me for 100 bolls to the Barracks; I

[1]Perhaps John Baillie of Leys, Clerk to the Signet.

told him I believed I might sell at £7 the eight stone, but not under, and that as I knew not the prices in the north, I behoved to be regulat by them if they were higher. However, I doubt much if I can get that price for the whole; but I want your advice what is the least I should take, and if I make anie bargain, I shall furthwith advise you to prevent your making one for me, and you'l also advise me if you chance first to make a bargain for me.

As soon as your rentalls are come up, I doubt not Mr. William Grant[1] and I will verie soon settle the differences betuixt you about your stipend. I am,

dr Robert,
your own,
P. Grant.

Edinr., 15th Janry, 1729.

No. XI.

Dear Rot.,

I wrote you a pretty long letter by Coll: Grant's express, since which I have his and yours of the 7th: I not only approve of your selling the litle bear I have, but I wish you had sold my meal likewise without my advice. I believe, indeed, I'm att no loss yt it's not yet sold, butt att the same time I'm such a lazy fellow, and so bad a merchtt, that you must certainly make the bargain. You certainly judge well in rather preventing those you think wou'd make a demand att Whits., than paying others that don't want their money, tho' I cou'd wish to be ridd of the Mrs. of Ruthry, who, you know, is a very punctual crer., and were it not that I have already pay'd, and am to pay a good deal in this place, I had remitted you as much as wou'd pay her. But

[1]Presumably Mr. William Grant, Advocate, afterwards Lord Prestongrange, and Mr. Patrick Grant's successor on the bench, both as a Lord of Session and of Justiciary. As 2nd son of Sir Francis Grant, Bart., Lord Cullen, he may, with his distinguished father and Mr. Patrick Grant, be fairly claimed as having belonged to the parish of Knockando, wherein is Ballintomb, for generations the seat of Lord Cullen's ancestors.

the most pressing, both there and here, must be first answered; and therfor I leave the whole to your own management. As to your sheepstealer, I think your punishmt too moderate; but mind you can't inflict any corporal punishmt before 40 days after sentence; and I have some doubt whether you can even banish him before that time without his own consent, and that otherwise he must be 40 days in prison after sentence. I'm exceeding sorry for the accts I hear of my mother. My wife continues still very much indispos'd, but she'l endeavour, if she's able, to write to her by next post. Tell the Coll: and Elchies[1] I shall not neglect what they write me about. You'l tell John Cruikshank, Auchmades, ther's a bill of Grant's upon him, payll here, att my house, to Mr. George Ord,[2] mercht here, the first of next month, for £37 16 00 st, and as he's my particular friend, I beg of John that the money may answer punctually: it's the price of wine, and, conseq'ntly, a debt of honour. You had gott it sent you as the last year, had it not been for what I already told you, that I cou'd not remitt you any money att this time; but pray lett him be punctual in sending it as he wou'd oblidge, dr Rot,

yours,

Edr, Jary 20th, 1729. P. GRANT.

No. XII.

[J. D.]

Dear Robert,

I have yours of the 17th of Januarie, but though Ringorum be come to toun, and was allmost a whole afternoon with my wife, yet I have, hitherto, heard of noe complaints of you. The truth is, I believe, he expects no favourable answer, for the answer I

[1]No doubt Captain James Grant of Wester Elchies; buried 11th October, 1740, "Aberlour Par. Reg."

[2]Mr. George Ord, Wine Merchant in Edinburgh, died at Inveresk, "Scots Mag.," February, 1745.

resolved to have made him, and will still make, if he speaks to me on the subject, is that whoever will be so kind as to pay my debts for me, I will never putt him under anie limitation or restriction, either as to the persons, or way, and manner of doing it. However, pray take care that, in all events, I be safe, and that I loose none of the @ rents ; and the reason I mention this is because I think the fee of this money was made over by Ringum to his son Charles,[1] and whether he made anie intimation of his right, I know not, and since the money is readie, pray let it be applyed to some creditor or other. If Ringum should not take it, the consignation you have made will be a good ground, at least, to dispute his @ rents.

You need be in noe great pain for my being rash in selling my victuall, for if you don't doe it for me, it is a great chance if it be sold at all. It seems my mother has not had sufficient fodder for the cattle, which I suppose has oblidged you to buy the corn and straw; but considering how prices rule, I believe I shall be at noe loss by the bargain. It's true the prices are latelie fal'n a little in this countrie, but I am perswaded they must rise again, considering the scarcetie abroad, and how little remains unsold here. I don't remember you wrote me aniething about your ditching in Dandalieth, tho' the bearer tells me you have alreadie ditched two sides of one inclosure, which pleases me exceeding well, and the account he gives of the soil, is far beyond my expectation of it.

As to Antie Meg's[2] heirship as nearest of kin to her sister, where there are bonds bearing @ rent, she has noe share of the prinll sum, but onlie of the @ rents that fell due before her sister's death, tho' if there are bills, she will have her share likewise of the principall sums of these, notwithstanding that they alsoe bear

[1]Charles Grant of Ringorum pursued the claim to the estate of Carron on the death of his father (*Vide* Note to No. VI), and sold his right to Captain Lewis Grant of Achterblair, who had married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Colonel John Grant of Carron.

[2]Mr. Grant had a paternal as well as a maternal aunt of this name. *Vide* Note to No. VI.

@ rent; but the difference is, that bills bear @ rents by law, whereas bonds bear @ rent onlie by paction.

The bearer, John Roger,[1] tells me he has got tuentie shill, in part payt of his wages, from you, and I have given him three pound sterling more, which compleats his wages to Mertimess last; from which time, you know, our new bargain commences. I find I shall not have time just now to answer Elches's letter. Pray give him my most humble service, and tell him I delivered his to Rothiemay,[2] and that we both agree that his last project is, by much, too landwart for our Parliament House. I am,

dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Edinr, 5th Febry, 1729.

No. XIII.

[J. D.]

Dear Robert,

I am exceedinglie oblidged to you for the care you take of me, and, in particular, for your relieving me of the Mrs. of Ruddrie, who, it seems, has been verie unworthie of the favour my mother and you intended her. However, since you was able to answer her demand, I am glade of what has happened, for I was uneasie to be redd of so troublesome a creditor. I formerlie wrote you that tho' Ringorum had spoke to my wife, yet he mentioned nothing to me of the consignation of his debt; wherfore, I at last called for him yesterday, and spoke of it to him. I challenged him for refusing his money, or putting you to the trouble of a consignation, and when he talked of my doing him the favour of keeping it till Mert, I told him he had noe reason to ask anie favours of me, considering how small a one I had formerlie asked of him, and

[1] Mr. Grant's grieve at Easter Elchies.

[2] Archibald Ogilvie of Rothiemay, Advocate.

was refused. That occasioned a good deall of chaffer, the purpoit of which you'l guess at without resuming. He said, at last, he was content Robert Leslie should continue his possession till Whitsunday, but hoped I would cause him remove then; and I answered, that if that was all the concession, I would not take upon me to make bargains for Robert Leslie, but I was resolved not to loose the intrest of the consigned money, and therfore he behoved to take it; and when he saw nothing would prevaile, he agreed it was not reasonable I should loose the intrest, and that he would take it; and when I proposed his sending power to one to receive it for him, he said he hoped he would be as soon north himself: so you see I have approved of what you have done in everie article. However, pray take care to have Charles's concourss to the discharge, because of the assignment in his favours.

As to sending north money, the times are prittie hard, and, I assure you, I have paid, and am immediatlie to pay, a great deall of money in this place. However, as there happened to be a demand made upon me, and after I had, for answering it, got payment of £150 st that was owing me, therafter the crer choosed rather that I should keep the money; so I happen, by that accident, to be able to make you a remittance, and have run the risque of straitning myself to make it the larger. You'l therfore receive inclosed the bill I formerlie wrote you of, that Grant drew on John Cruikshank, payable to Mr. Ord the first of this moneth, for thirty seven pound sixteen shillings sterling, indorsed by Mr Ord to me, and by me to you value in account; and I have sent by the bearer, in gold and silver, one hundered and sixtie two pound four shillings sterling, which, with the bill, makes two hunder pound sterling. I hope some more of my rents and price of my victuall have answered, to help to reimburss what you are in advance for me; and as its hard to scrape together so much money, you may be sure it will give me greater pleasure the more of it is employed in paying prinll sums; for I think I need not tell you how anxious I am to be free of all my north countrie debt.

Could I have got time, I would have writt to Dalrachnie. Pray tell him he must not upon anie account desert me, nor give over the selling of my victuall, tho', for this present year, I do not doubt but you may sell it to a good advantage for export. However, of this you are the best judge, and, in all events, one of you two must certainlie sell it, for should that be left to me, it would never be sold.

As to settleing the lands of Chapplehill, you know I allwise inclined to preferr the present possessor, if he is otherwise unexceptionable. I do indeed wish William Barron verie well, and it was his own fault he ever left me, but if either my mother or you have anie inclination to preferr him, I leave it to you to do in that matter as you'l think proper; and this I think answers in substance both your last letters of the 28th and 30th of Januar. How soon this comes to hand, you'l aquaint me of the recept of it, and as I am to take the bearer Dallachapple's[1] recept for the money, that is, the one hundered and sixtie two pound four shill, you may, upon recept of the money, give him your obligation to get up his. I am,

dr Robert,,
yours,

Edinr, 12th Febry, 1729. P. GRANT.

No. XIV.

Dear Rot,

Last post I wrote you a very long letter, since which I have both yours of the 22nd and 23rd ulto. As to Achoynany's proposal, I have all the aversion imaginable agst having any dispute with a neighbour and a friend I am so much obliged to; and one of the things makes me most unwilling to go into such a bargain—to continue while wee or our heirs are proprietars of the

[1]Robert Grant of Dellachapple, parish of Cromdale; his portrait, by Waitt, is at Castle Grant.

Miln and lands—is least it should create seeds of differences between our heirs. But att the same time, to satisfie him that I intend no hardship, I shall willingly agree to it for 25 or 30 years, which is as long as he or I can reasonably expect to live; and rather than have any sort of plea with him, I rather go into his own proposal, even as he makes it, and if our bairns incline to have disputes with one another, I can't help it. But then, I think another expedient might be fallen upon, if he likes it, preferable to both. That piece of ground lying in the heart of my estate, and discontiguous from his, is, I suppose, of no other value to him than the rent, and I shall, if he pleases, buy it of him att such a rate as you think reasonable. I know his right is only a wodsett, and therefor if that bargain were gone into, the method of executing it behov'd to be by a disposition to me, bearing the price pay'd with a prory of resignation and precept of seasine, redeemable by Grant for payt of that sum as a part of his wodsett money, and in terms of his wodsett. Upon which, I wou'd either purchass the reversion from Grant, or, if he wou'd not dispense with it, gett a new charter to myself, or infeft base. Were I very fond of such purchasses, you know I might take another way of applying for it, but I assure you I never will disoblige any neighbour, and farr less Achoynany, for such a purchass; and it's with no other view than to maintain friendship among our successors after wee are dead, that I propose it; and I don't know but you'l think (and with some appearance of reason too) that my yerd hunger must be very strong when I propose to contract new debt to buy land before all old scores are clear'd off. But I assure you it's not a fondness to encrease my estate that's any of my motives for this proposition, but only to maintain friendship and good neighbourhood, upon which I putt a very great value. However, you need not show this letter, nor make any of these proposals as from me; but to sound his inclinations, ye may make them as from yourself. But if he won't come into this last proposal, then, in order to draw a contract, *ther are* some things in which I must be advis'd by you: First, the word ffoggage is too grall, and the meaning of it in law not certain and definite, therefor ye must

inform (me) what it is he has been in use to have out of my lands: 2dly, what hill, or what part of the hill of Rothes, his tenents have been in use to frequent ; 3dly, I must reserve liberty to myself, or my tennents, to improve any part of the hill, by inclosing, or turning it into corn or hain'd grass, allowing alwise his tennents attollerance with the other tenents of Rothes.

I am exceeding sorry for the continuance of the pain in your side, and, in good earnest, if you wou'd cause some your people write a distinct account of your case—I mean a history of your indisposition, and what remedies you have taken—I wou'd send you the advice of some of our best phisitians. I am,

dear Rot,

yours,

Edr, June 3d, 1729. P. GRANT.

Meal continues to sell very well in this country, and if mine were here about the middle or end of July, I'm perswaded it wou'd give 8£ the boll att 8 stone.

I had almost forgott to tell you I have look't over your rentals, and am not a litle pleas'd to imagine I have found three errors: 1st, The money rent, cropt 1727, is sum'd up £3009. 4. 4 which you observe was cleard in May, 1728, and tho', in that acct, the money rent is charg'd att only £3003. 14. 4, yet you afterwards stated for the rod fishing of Aikenway £5, which you say makes up the difference, whereas it makes only £3008. 14. 4, so its ten pence short; 2dly, you state a diminution on the money rent of Rothes, cropt 1728, of £32. 19. 10, occasion'd by conversions in three articles, whereby George Davidson[1] pays only £83. 6. 8, instead of £117. 7. 4, which is a diminution of £34. 0. 8; John Sutherland pays only £20. 16. 8, instead of £29. 6. 8, which is a diminution of £8. 10. 0, making both together a diminution of £42. 10. 8; and the Walk miln, being waste, cropt 1727, the croft payd only of money £2. 6. 8, whereas both together payd

[1] *Vide* App. No. LIII.

for cropt 1728 £14, which is ane increase of £11. 13. 4, which being d[educt]ed from the £42. 10. 8 of diminution, ther remains of diminution on the ha[ill] [m]oney rent of Rothes, £30. 17. 4, instead of £32. 19. 10, so you're wrong in that article in £2. 2. 6; 3dly, In the money rent of Edinvillie,[1] you say ther's ane augmentation of £11. 11. 8, which, added to the former rent of £456. 3. 8, makes £467. 5. 4, whereas it truly makes £467. 15. 4; but thats not all the error, for the augmentation comes to £12. 1. 8, as appears by your own parlars, thus, Blairnain - £5 0 0

Midtoun or Bush - 3 6 8

Pulduie - 3 15 0

12 1 8

which added to £456. 3. 8 makes £468. 5. 4 thus

456 3 8
12 1 8

468 5 4 instead of £467. 5. 4, which is wrong in £1: and all these errors make in haill £3. 12. 6. Now I own I'm not a litle pleas'd with my own exactness, in finding these errors in so exact a man: I assure you a very good character has been often founded upon a much slenderer proof, and mind, tho' upon examination you shou'd find that in either articles you have err'd as much on the other side, yet two blacks makes not one white. Adieu.

This day Ld: Pencaitland[2] is buried, and I suppose will be succeeded in the b———— by Ld Haining.[3]

Endorsed in R. G.'s writing:—Letter annent errors in my act., and annent the haugh of Arndully.

[1] In the parish of Aberlour.

[2] James Hamilton of Pencaitland, raised to the Bench on 8th November, 1712.

[3] John Pringle of Haining is stated to have taken his seat on the Bench as Lord Haining on 1st July, 1729.

No. XV.

Edr, June 12th, [1729].

[J. D.]

Dear Robert,

I wrote you prittie fullie last week by Mr. Chapman's[1] son, since which I have a letter from Achoinanie, with a plan or mapp he had been so kind to make me of the haugh in Dandalieth. I wrote you formerlie that I fancied you would find a necessitie for compleating your project, and I hope the dyker is long before now begun to the dyke, and I shall be glade to hear, from time to time, what progress he makes. You know I designed to have the dyke as near to the foot of the hill, or, which is the same, as near to the road from Craignook to Rothes as possible, that there might be the less of the haugh uninclosed, and, at the same time, to have it as straight as could be consistent with that design: I observe, however, that the dyke of the inclosure alreadie made, goes from the toun of Dandalieth away from the high road towards the southeast. No doubt you have had good reason for doing so, tho' I cannot judge of it at this distance. At the same time, I would be satisfied if you could give me some guess from the specimen you have alreadie made of this inclosure, how you think the project in generall may succeed, and particularlie, what you think this inclosure might be set for, provided it is rightlie manadged. And in order to the setting, I dont know but it would be proper that I should first lyme it, and sow it with grass seeds upon my own expence; and if you can make anie probable

[1]At this time the Rev. James Chapman was minister of the parish of Cromdale, which is but a few miles up the Spey from Tammore, on the opposite side of the river. On 6th December, 1717, "John Chapman" is mentioned in a letter from Alexander Grant of Lethindie to Tammore, and "John Chapman mercht. in Cromdale," in 1727 in "Par. Reg."

conjecture of what this inclosure might yield, I might make a guess of what I could draw of the whole haugh from my mapp, which gives me the extent of the whole. And I would alsoe be content to know what may be the present rent of that part of Dandalieth that is above the haugh, and will be without all the inclosures; and also what may be the rent of the inclosure you have alreadie made, before it was inclosed. It's ane old proverb, a light head gives the foot much —doe, and I fancie you'l think that my curiositie is like to give you abundance of needless trouble, but however, this is all your own bairn, and you must even foster it the best you can, and I hope you'l forgive my anxietie to hear of its wellfare. I have also forgot the bargain you made with the dyker, and what leads me to mention it now, is that by my plan the dyke——s alreadie built is onlie about 240 yairds long, and I find ———rticle in your accompts for £91. 10 sh Scots, given him in part payt of his work. Now if that is onlie for the work alreadie done, £50 sterling would not pay him for the whole dyke from one end of the haugh to the other, but I fancie the meaning is no more than that it is in part payment of the whole bargain, and it's to explain this I would be glade to know what were the terms of the bargain. The inclosure you have made, is, I think, of a verie right extent, and I would incline to divide the whole haugh into inclosures of about the same extent; wherof I think there would be about ten; and I believe the best way of improving it is, as I said before, that I should once lyme the whole, and sow it with grass seeds, and sett off the severall inclosures as I find opportunitie; but I doubt I would not make much of them unless I lyme them all myself, and sow them with grass seeds. Itt seems all the tacks expire next Whit except that of the miln, and therefore I wish you would employ all the services I can command, and get all the assistance of good friends and neighbours that you can, for leading lyme stones this summar. I am just interrupted by companie, and can onlie add that I am

yours,

P. Grant.

No. XVI.

[J. D.]

Dear Robert,

I received yours without date by the fellow you sent for the cattle, and this day he has taken journey with the young bull and cow. This last I am told was indisposed last spring, and was what they call hidebound, but Sir Robert Dickson caused cure her, tho' she looks a good deall the worss; but I am told she has since got one of the best English bulls in this countrie, and if she proves with calf, I am hopefull may produce a prittie good breed. I have given the fellow seventeen shillings and sixpence ster to defray his charges, and have ordered him to goe the way of Perth, least the cattle should be hurt in the boats at Dundee, and not to travell above eight miles a day, and to rest at least two dayes in the week; so by the time of his arrivall you'l easielie find out whether he observes his orders. I am afraid I must ask the favour of the Collonell[1] to give them grass for this summer, for I doubt that I have anie fitt for them att Elches. They are, I'm told, of exceeding good kinds, and I should be sorie if anie misfortune should happen them.

Dr Robert, you take what I write about the expences of my improvements so verie seriouslie, that I must forbear hereafter to show my exactness by making of calculls: I am sure you understand that matter much better than I, and you may believe I will not grudge anie expence that way you think reasonable; and therefore, if you give them over, my letter will have a quitt contrarie effect from what I intended. It's true indeed, inclosing after the rate of a guinea ane acker is, I am afraid, more than I would make by the bargain; but then, if I mind right, the agreement you made for building the outer fence, was, what I thought at the time, reasonable enough, tho' I don't remember the particulars furder than that I think we computed the whole would

[1]No doubt Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch.

not exceed £25 sterling. You know that outer dyke is absolutelie necessarie before I can carrie on the improvements in the muir, and as I would not willinglie be disappointed of that project, I rather give more money than have that dyke not finished, and I am verie uneasie it's not going on. You talk of leting it alone till I see it, but depend upon it, I'm resolved not to see the north, if no accident happen, till you write me I'm out of debt in that countrie, and that the dyke is finished, and then, if I'm in health, you may command me when you please.

As to the muir, I had much rather have bought cattell for my mother's use than that the oxen you bought for labouring it had been otherwise employed. I did not indeed know she had use for anie, for I thought the tennents had laboured what she has of the mains, but if she wants cattle, as I told you formerlie that I was resolved she should not be straitned while I had, you may be sure I would not grudge the buying cattle for her use, when probablie I shall loose little more by it than the advance of the money. Dalrachnie told me of another proposall of your own; he'l tell you my answer, which I need not repeat furder than that I'le go into it in anie terms you like yourself, which, however, won't hinder me from going on in something like improvemts in another place; for if I were once out of debt in the north, I have some inclinations to allocat a certain sum annuallie to be imployed that way, which I'm perswaded, under your conduct and manadgment, would prove to good advantage. Therfore, after you have seen Dalrachnie, pray write me what you incline.

My wife once thought of sending north her daughter this summer, but the child has taken some sort of distemper. It comes sometimes out in lumps in her skin, and disappears again, which certainlie proceeds from some indisposition in her blood; and should it continue, she thought she would easier get assistance here than in the north, and therfore does not incline to send her north before harvest, at soonest, and perhaps not this season. I wonder Mr. Chapman's son was not come home before what I suppose was the date of your last letter. I sent some books with

him to the children, and wrote to you about some things to which I want ane answer.

I wish, if you are not quitt recovered, you would send me, as I proposed, a state of your case, that I might get you advice about it, for in your last you appear to be in so serious a mood about the 1000 merks for improvements, that I am perswaded you have, at writing, been either sick or in the spleen.

You have no doubt heard that my Ladie Lovat[1] is dead, which has keept the Collonell's children[2] one day longer in toun. Give my service to the Collonell, and tell the Major[3] my wife gives him her most humble service. Lovat[4] tells me Generall Wade[5] won't be in your countrie before Agust, of which you may aquaint the Collonell. I am,

dr. Robert,
yours,

Edinr, 30th June, 1729. P. GRANT.

P.S.—I had almost forgot to complain that I have not heard a word of the payment of Grant's bill to Mr. Ord. It was payable I think about Candlemess, and it's a shame it should be so long owing. The gentleman has good reason to be angrie, and tho' he is ane honest, good natured man, he should not be the worss used. I reallie think you should cause John Cruikshanks pay intrest for it, and if he does not at least pay the bill, pray protest it immediatlie, and send it up, for it will verie soon expire, and I have noe furder concern in it than transmitting it to you for Mr. Ord's behoof, to get payment.

[1]Margaret, Lady Lovat, was the fourth daughter of Ludovick Grant of Grant, and so nearly related to Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch.

[2]Another reference to Mrs. Patrick Grant's interest in Colonel William Grant's daughters occurs in a letter from George Gordon, W.S., to Tammore, dated 30th June, 1729, in which is the following:—"Ther are severall accompts for the girls come in to day, all perused by the Lady Elcheis amounting to £95. 15. 6 ster."

[3]Probably Major (afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel) Lewis Grant, 5th son of Ludovick Grant of Grant. *Vide* Part II, No. 6.

[4]The famous Simon, Lord Lovat, beheaded on Tower Hill, 9th April, 1747.

[5]The celebrated road-maker; appointed Commander-in-Chief in Scotland, 25th December, 1725; Field-Marshall, 14th December, 1743.

No. XVII.

July 31st, 1729.

Dear Rot,

The most disagreeable excuse you cou'd have made for not writing sooner than your last of the 25th inst., is what you there tell me of your continuing still ill. I have not time particularly to answer your letter tho' I cou'd not miss writing by this post.

I had heard of poor Johnie's[1] illness the day before I gott your letter, by another hand, and was in no litle pain till I gott the accounts from you of his recovery. I am, however, told he still continues to take litle severish [*sic*] fitts, with flushings in his face, which they impute to . . ., if that is the case, pray cause send me a parlar account of him that I may take advice here what's proper to be given him; and att the same time, both my mother and you shou'd send parlar accounts of your indispositions. I think Mr. Bell is not very civil, that he does not write me as soon as any indisposition happens either to my mother or children.

Delrachny has been dreaming when he said I had money to send north. All I told him was that I had money by me for people who had made a demand, and had not afterwards call'd for it, but that I behov'd to keep it for them; and I dare say you'l think the few duty, which I pay'd this morning, Mr. Ord's money, and between 11 and 1200 Ms I am to pay to morrow, with twixt 30 and 40£ st I pay'd within thir two moneths, is enough to prevent my sending north any money att this time; but I hope, if all the funds I before wrote you of shall answer, you'l have no great use for more.

I really believe its my own fault I can't now send you Sr Rot. Gordon's[2] order for the slate;[3] I'm perswaded I shall have

[1]Mr. Grant's eldest son, at this time about 10 years of age.

[2]Sir Robert Gordon, 4th Baronet of Gordonstoun, who, on the death of the 17th Earl of Sutherland without sons, claimed that title, but the House of Lords, in March, 1771, adjudged it to the deceased Earl's daughter, Elizabeth, first Duchess of Sutherland. Sir Robert married Agnes, daughter of Sir William Maxwell of Calderwood, Bart., and died in 1772. "The Scottish Nation," Vol. II, 323.

[3]For Manse of Knockando. *Vide* App. No. XIV.

it for the asking: I have indeed hitherto forgott to seek, but I'm to see him to morrow's morning.

What you write me about my improvements, is no small disappointment; but I wonder you say nothing of what Delrachny talk'd to me of about yourself. Ther's a gentleman just now with me, who promises me a pattern of a plough, that with two horses, without a driver, will plough very stiff ground, and with three horses, will plough the strongest ground that can be, if ther be not very bigg stones in it, and I'm resolv'd to send you one of them for a tryall.

I saw a letter from Mr. Place (he that's searching in Grant's ground for mineralls for the Y: B: Compy) to Mr. Fordyce that he yett found nothing valuable in my ground, but a good appearance of a quantity of iron ore, and a deal of marble of a great variety of colours. I wish you were able to give him a hearty bottle for me, and putt the expense to my acct, for I want that you shou'd see where both these are to be found, and that with the first occasion by sea, you wou'd send me pieces of the best of all the severall sorts of the marble, that I may cause make the experiment here of its firmness, and how it polishes. I'm perswaded one of skill wou'd find out the lime quarrie, for ther's certainly one there, and I wish you'd had one to search for it, for it's worth the looking after. I am, in heast,

dear Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

No. XVIII.

Dear Rot,

I remember litle I have to add to my last except the sending the inclos'd order[1] you wanted from Sr Rot. Gordon for sclates

[1] *Vide* App. No. XIV.

to the minr's manse. I'm glad to hear of poor Johnie's recovery, and I wish you had writt me how their governour agrees with the children, and what progress they are making. I'm sorry I have any of my meal on hand. The prices, indeed, are not yet fallen in this countrey, and I dare say won't fall before the harvest is pretty farr gone, and yet wee have such ane appearance of a good cropt that, as I never will grudge att any time your putting your bottle to my acct, (I wish you were able to drink a gallon on condition that I pay'd it) I wou'd even give two or three good Strathspey collations to have what you tell me remains of my victual well sold.

It seems you have not yet talk'd with Achnahyle[1] about what he owes me, and I wish you wou'd, that that matter might be ended. It seems, poor man, he is not very well advis'd, nor yet my friend William. My father, in pursuance of commissions from them, as well as for his own concern, enter'd into a contract with his sister—in law—whereby this money became due to her son, and my father, for himself, and as taking burden for them, became bound to discharge certain dilligences ledd in all their names. Att ending with Sandie, this discharge was extended and sign'd by me, and intended to be sign'd by them, but Sandy tells me they refus'd to sign it. I'm sorry for it, you knowing my aversion to disputes or processes with any body, but necessity has no law. I rather have processes with any body than them; but since they refuse the comonest justice what they are bound to, and att the same time does them no hurt, I must take another way to obtain justice, and if they like a proces they shall have one, but a very easy one. I shou'd however be very glad you talke with them, and gett their own answer what is really their meaning. I fancy they have forgott their giving such commissions, tho' I doubt they wou'd not willingly pass from the benefite of the transaction father made for them. However, I intreat you wou'd meet with them, and gett their final answer,

[1]James Grant, uncle of Mr. Patrick Grant.

that I may putt ane end to it one way or other. I expect ane answer to my last, and am,

dear Rot,
yours,
P. Grant.

Edr, August 13th, 1729.

I'm told offers are already made to buy this year's barley, tho' not yet cutt down, but all the price I have yet heard offer'd is £7 : 4 : 0.

No. XIX.

[J. D.]

Dear Robert,

I wrote you by last post, and am glade to know by yours off the 16th that all my meall is at last sold. I can't understand what your tennent Logan [*sic*] means by choising to give over his possession, and pay £20 of the grassum for one year, notwithstanding you have got £40 of grassum for the same lands from the two Mullbean men that are to succeed him. As to the £14, the remainder of the grassum that is in difference between you, and which you say is referred to me, I think it would be hard to exact it. The £20 he offers is more than enough for all that he has got of the tack, especiallie since I am no looser, and that the men that succeed him pay so [much] grassum. As to the years of their tack (which it seems is alsoe referred to me), whether nine or elleven, if they will truche lyme the ground, as they promise, I would be far from grudging to give them encouragment; but then I would not take that upon their bare words, but specifie in the tack how much lyme they should be bound to lay upon the ground, and at what time. As to the tennent in Goslipcraig, I must rather take £64 of grassum for eleven years' tack than £80 of grassum for nynteen years, unless the tennent were to become bound some how or other to improve the ground in case of his geting the 19

years' tack, either by lymeing or inclosing, which the tennent, in that case, should be bound by the tack to perform: otherwise, I would choise the first.

My last to you would give you some little notion of the nature of Achnahyle's debt. I am sorie his memorie is so exceeding frail. It seems if I had him not sufficientlie bound by write, I would have little to depend upon. William Grant, who is equallie concerned with him, tho' he is poorer, has had a better memorie. But however, it seems from the frailtie of his memorie, that he has not paid my father anie part even of the @ rents that he paid. I have therfore charged them from the beginning, and if he can show anie instructions of payment, you can easselie correct the mistake.

I suppose, after a little thought, he will remember: First, that by his brother Robert's[1] contract of marriage, my father, he, and William, became bound for 6000 merks to the relict and children of the marriage, wherof his share was 1000, and that after Robert's deceass, there was a considerable intake of the stock contracted for, to the extent of no less than £3257. 13. 4, wherof he and William were liable in a third part betuixt them, that is £1085. 17. 8 with @ rent from Mertimess 1704; 2dlie, [he] will alsoe remember that in 1709 he gave my father a commission to settle that matter with the relict; and accordinglie, my father, having before paid the former @ rents, at last componed the whole with her for 3000 merks, with @ rents from Mert 1709, whereof Achnahyle's part is a sixth, which is 500 merks. And in case Achnahyle may have forgot this commission, I send you a coppie of it inclosed. You'l observe that in stating this accompt, as my father was onlie cautioner for Achnahyle and William, of consequence what payts he made, even of @ rents of their share, must bear @ rent from the time of the payment, and I have accordinglie so stated it. And as the easiest method of compting, I have charged the whole third, which is Achnahyle's and

[1]The name of "Rob. Grant at Achnakyl," appears in a list of students at Marischal College, 1708-12. *Fasti Academiae Mariscallanae Aberdonensis*, "New Spalding Club," Vol. II, 289.

William's shares jointlie, and have onlie divided them at the last, wherby Achnahyle's share of principall and @ rents amounts at Mertimess next, to £1120. 9. 10d Scots; and that by and attour my father's expences in making the transaction, and at law, of which there is a generall memorandum subjoined to the accompt, whereof Achnahyle must pay a sexth part. And at the same time you will judge, by this coppie of his commission, how right he was in refusing to sign the discharge mentioned in my last. Since he is so verrie forgetfull, I have a great doubt of his doing me justice without a compulsitor, and for that verie reason, the sooner you meet with him the better, that you may send me his finall answer, and that, if it is such as I expect from his former manadgment, I may have a proces readie to be insisted in the beginning of next session. But if he agrees to doe me justice without a proces, I leave it to you to modifie the articles of expences subjoined to the accompt, as you'l think reasonable.

As to remitting you money, I have noe doubt of being able to send you, about Mertimess, 5000 merks, for which I have a bond by two good men. I am alsoe promised Sir Thomas Calder's[1] money at the same time, but cannot depend upon it till it is in my hands. As to Ardross, if nothing but dilligence will doe, there is noe help for it, but I am unwilling to use anie, and much more, that it should be in my name; and therefore, in that case, I would have you send me a coppie of ane assignation to be made in your favours, because you have the bond. But I would first try another letter, and you may be as peremptor in it as you please.

After what I have writt you, you'l be best able to judge, by the answering of my funds in the north, whether it will signifie much to Mr. Duff, to allow him the favour of being the last crer you'l pay; since I am resolved to keep the Mortification to Rothes in my hands, and to pay none to Mr. Geddes till he and I clear

[1]Formerly of Muirton, of which he disposed in 1710. He married Christian, daughter of Sir John Scott of Ancrum, by whom he had a son, James, and other children. Although Muirton was sold, Sir Thomas continued to live there down to the year 1723 or later. Robert Young's "The Parish of Spynie," p. 306.

accompts. But I leave you to doe with Mr. Duff's request, or anie others of the same sort, what you think proper.

I am much concerned for the accounts you give me of my mother's having dislocated her wreste. It's strange that she took noe advice about it when the accident first happened, and after it has continued so long, I am afraid it will scarce ever be brought right again. I dare say she is angrie with me for not writing to her, but I reallie have not had time to write to aniebodie but yourself. My wife continues still on foot, and, I thank God, is in as good health as she can expect, considering that, according to the common phrase, she has lost her compt book. I am,

dr Robert,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Edinr., 21st August, 1729.

No. XX.

Dear Robert,

Scarce any thing cou'd have surpris'd me more than Mr. Bell's coming to town. You may be sure he wou'd tell his own story in the most favourable way, and the letter you writt with him was so general that I know not what to make of it; and yet in Bell's own relation some circumstances dropt from him that made me suspect the worst of him; and, upon the whole, I had fully determin'd to bring my two sons to town this winter, to have lodg'd them in my own house, and sent them to the publick school, and att the same time to have had one to teach them att home in the evenings. This was my purpose, when your last of the 18th Septr came to hand on Fryday last, which entirely confirm'd me in the notion I had of that scoundrell Bell, but has made both their mother and me waver a litle in our resolution of bringing up the children this season, till you determine us. I believe you know that before this accident happen'd, I had resolv'd to lett them stay this winter, and to bring them up with myself next vacance,

and since I gott yours, I have been with Achoynany's son,[1] who gives Mr. Coban a very large character, both for his prudence and capacity, which is a great encouragement to me to continue them where they are. Upon the other hand, I am much afraid that their grandmother's fondness of them, makes her indulge them too much, and makes them peevish and petted in their tempers, and presume too much upon their master, and neglect their books; and I believe they might do better under my own eye, that I might keep them under some reasonable awe; so that I own I'm pretty much divided twixt the two, whether to bring them up or continue them this winter where they are, and will be determin'd either way as you advise me, which I will expect by first post. And if it is to bring them up, I must give you the trouble, without waiting a return from me, to order ev'ry thing necessary for their journey; and in that case, you won't deliver the two inclosed letters, which are to be deliver'd only in the event that you think it best to continue them where they are.

I'm sure you are several letters in my debt, and that I wrote about sundry things to which I have yet gott no answer, particularly about my fine marble, whereof I desired you send me some pieces for a tryal. I had a letter from my cusin Sandy Grant, who writes me that Mr. Place says it wou'd make the finest lime in the world, and if it does even that, you know of what value a lime quarry in that place wou'd be. Pray therefore be as civil to him as possible, and entertain him on my expense, as if I were there myself; and try att least if he can learn you ane easy way of making lime of that marble, or if he can find any other lime quarry. I know not whether you have yet seen Achnahyl, nor what he says to my acct, but Sandy writes me that neither he nor William have yet signed his discharge. I am,

dear Rot,
your own,

Edr, Septr 30, 1729. P. GRANT.

[1]Presumably Alexander, afterwards Colonel Alexander Grant of Achoynanie and Arndilly.

Since writing the above, I have yours of the 26th, which has confirm'd me in my resolution of keeping the children att Elchies this winter, so you'l seal and deliver the inclosed lers. I have not yet consider'd your scheme, nor is Mr. W. Grant in town. Delrachnie writes me Coll. Ghuest offers ½ a guinea p. boll att 8 stone, for 7 years, if he continue barrack-master,[1] for my meal, deliverable att Belntomb,[2] and that Coll. Horsey offers the same price for 7 years for 300 bolls, deliverable att Culnakyl.[3] I cou'd take more, but I own the offer is not despicable. I beg you wou'd meet with Delrachny, and determine together what I should do, whether to hold either of the two, and which. To me, indeed, the definite time and quantity, without any condition, make Horsey's offer appear most rational, but I know not whether the payt be as sure, and I want both your advices what to do; and it seems it can admitt of no delay, since Guest is coming immediately to this town, where the bargain must be finish'd or given up; therefor I begg ane ansr by first post. I have pay'd to John Dingual your acct of £22 : 7.

Octr 2d.

No. XXI.[4]

Dr Robert,

After writing pretty fully by last post both to you and Dalrachney for your advices whither to bargain with Collonell Guest or Collonell Horsley for my meall, I gott account that Collonell Guest was then allready come to toun, and intended to take journey for England last Munday morning, which accordingly he did. And after second thoughts, I considered that, notwith-

[1] *Vide* Note to No. VI.

[2] In Inverallan. *Vide* No. I.

[3] In parish of Abernethy.

[4] [This Letter is not in Mr. Grant's handwriting, nor in that of John Dingwall, the writer of Letters Nos. V, X, XII, XIII, XV, XVI and XIX. All the other Letters are in Mr. Grant's own handwriting.]

standing the condition that behooved to be in any bargain with him, viz: if he continued barrock-master, yet if the price was reasonable, which I hope you'l think it is, it was not proper to loss such a merchant; because even tho' he were changed, yet probably his successor would incline to continue to furnish the barrocks in the same manner, the meall being good, and I know the soldiers have that opinion of it. I therfore waited of him on Saturday's night, and at last we bargained for 200 bolls yearly for seven years, at eight stone the boll, and half a guinea pr boll, and payable at Lambmess, but under the above condition of his continuing barrock-master. The contracts are not yet signed; I sent him a scroll by last post, and how soon they are returned, shall send you either the principall, or at least a coppy. The Collonell would have bought all I had to sell, but I told him I could not venture to sell more; and you will consider whither it will be proper to make a bargain, for a course of years, for the whole, for severall reasons and amongst others, that a bad year might happen when the whole wou'd not be payed by the tennents, and I find that I have only about 100 bolls more besides bear and bear meall, and I want your advice whither I should bargain with Collonell Horsley for any part of that for a number of years, or take my hazard in getting it sold annually to the highlanders by my friend Dalrachnie in the usuall manner: I have wrote to him by this post upon that subject, and I beg yow'l give me your joint advices.

I must also observe that ther is a pretty great dissproportion betwixt my money and my victuall rent, tho', since I know ye tennents pay their money rent for the most part with the price of their grain, I think at least it might be divided in half and half; and I am resolved if possible to convert ten or eleven hunder merks more into victuall rent, which will near make up the quantity I have sold to Coll. Guest: I am perswaded this could not probably be any dissadvantadge to me. It will be a hard year that I cannot make more then £4: 3: 4d of nine stone of oatmeal, neither do I believe it wou'd be a very great loss to some of the tennents, ffor I suppose severalls of them sells cheap enough and at unseasonable times to make up their money rent, and for the same

reason I wou'd incline to make the most of that conversion in Rothes, because of the common difference made in the conversion betwixt the lands of Edinvillie and Elchies, and the lands of Rothes —that the first is at £5 the boll and the last at £4 : 3 : 4. Pray let me have your opinion likewise in this matter, and how far yow think it practicable, and how soon it could be brought about: I do not know whither it wou'd likewise be ane advantage to convert the bear I have payed me into oatmeall, that is, whither nine stone of the one be not better than a boll of the other, or whither I could gett that conversion made. I will expect your answer both to this and the former letters as soon as possible, and am,

dear Robert,

yours,

P. Grant.

Edr, Octr 9th, 1729.

No. XXII.

Dear Rot,

Yours of the 11th came to hand last week. I'm perswaded what ye write me of the children is perfectly right, but I cannot mend the matter this winter, and next spring both my wife and I intend, God willing, to go north, and to bring south both my sons and Tibie.[1] I have very long ago thought of the additional expense that will bring upon me, and unless you help me, I protest I can not think of any new fund for defraying that expense. Ye may be sure I'l remitt you all the money I can, but I cannot as yet promise any more than the 5000 Ms I formerly wrote you of. My last of the 9th wou'd inform you of my bargain with Coll. Guest, which is pretty much in the terms you propos'd, save that the delivery is betwixt the 15 May and the first of August, upon fourteen days notice: I mean the draught I sent him of the contract is so, for the contract is not yet sign'd. I own tho'

[1]Lord Elchies' daughter, Isabella.

I wou'd fain have gone further, yet I durst not, without your advice, venture a seven years' bargain for more than 200 bolls. However, you'l find by my last that I want very much to convert more money into victual, nor cou'd I conceive how, till that is done, I cou'd venture to sell so much more than I have of my own; but as you must be a much better judge than I, what I ought to do, your letter determin'd me to write to Coll. Guest, and to propose to him 450 bolls; and I continued in that resolution till this morning that I had a letter from my good friend Delrachny, with a minute of agreement he has made for me with the Y B folks, for 400 bolls, deliverable any time they call for it, twixt the first of Janry and the first of August next, att ij sh st the boll, and 8 stone to the boll. This, with the 200 bolls to be deliver'd Coll. Guest, doubles my farms, and tho' my contract with Guest is not sign'd, and my price less, yet I cannot in honour disappoint him, and upon the other hand, if what is wanting to make up the other 400 bolls can be gott att any rate, I can do it as well as Delrachny, and if it can not, and that a loss behov'd to happen, yet, since the bargain was made for my acct, it were unreasonable he should suffer by it, and therefor I have resolv'd, for this year, to take my hazard of both, and have by this post writt to my kind friend, Delrachny, and ratified his bargain, and oblig'd myself to perform it. However, I hope ther's no hazard, and that with your help, I may make as much as will pay att least one quarter of the bairns' board, for, since ye had stomach enough for 450 bolls yearly for seven years, tho' wee cannot forsee what sort of years they will prove, I'm perswaded you'l have no difficulty in 600 bolls for one plentifull year; and therefor I must even give you the trouble to buy up as soon as possible as much as I'l want of my farms to make up my complement to both. I believe the proper time will be about Martinmass, and I need not put you on your guard what you happen to buy from the tennents, or others, to take them bound to carry it, and that ye may make your bargains the better, I shall take care to conceal the ones I have made, and ye may tell Delrachny to do the like. He writes me that Coll. Horsey will next year make a bargain with me for a number of years, and I

hope, before that time, to have your joint advices, both as to the quantity and terms of the bargain, that I may not sell more than I'm able to deliver. Dear Rot, I'm exceedingly oblig'd to you for all your projects, but Del: brought me one, from you know who, that I lik'd better than all the rest: I'm sorry I have heard no more of it since. If that resolution is altered, I have another to make when I go north in March next; I know not whether it will be any better lik'd, but I wou'd not wish to do any thing to make it impracticable till I see you. However, I think the man's proposal about the piece of ground my mother[1] plough'd, will not interfere with it, for I think it's farr above the ground I have in my eye in the muire; and if it is, and you think his offer reasonable, you may be sure I'l think so too, only I wou'd fain have the rent half meal. As to your incorporation of weavers, I think the scheme, tho' it be new and a litle whimsical, yet a very good one, and practicable enough; but why not add the shoemakers to them, and ye may do in it what ye think proper; only, least my project be spoil'd, ye must order it so as if you, or such as you, were to live there, and cou'd bestow upon it double the expense you cou'd att present think reasonable, that these gentlemen weavers wou'd give you no inconvenience. I wish from my heart ye cou'd bring Place down to Rothes, and try whether that marble of his wou'd make lime or not; if it did, I wou'd leave it to you to reward him as ye shall think proper. It's a great while since I had a letter from the west telling that the wonderfull plough ye was so fond of, was sent into town that I might take the pattern of it, but I can gett no further account of it tho' I have call'd frequently for it, therefor I'm resolv'd to write west to have one made there for myself, tho' the carriage to this place will make it a litle dearer. Saturday last I saw ane invention that has putt another project in my head, but it's you only that can inform me whether it will turn to any account. I know not whether you have seen any of

[1]This is the last reference by Mr. Grant to his mother, who probably died in 1731, the following entry appearing in the "Aberlour Par. Reg.":—"Feby 19th, 1731—It. Given in for the use of the Mortcloath to the Lady Elchies . . 3£ Scots."

the hand steel mills for grinding malt; the advantage of them is that they yield about a fourth part of ground malt more than the common meal mills do. These mills comonly grind about a boll in the hour, but then they alwise employ one hand, and its pretty severe work too. Now, the contrivance I saw was the fixing this steel mill to the meal mill, so as the same wheel makes both go, or either of them, as the miller pleases; and in this manner, the steel mill will, I'm told, easily grind ten firlots in the hour, without any other attendance than what is given to the meal mill that is to fill the happer. And I was told by a brewer here, that before he gott this contrivance, ten bolls dry'd malt yielded him, in the meal mill, only nine bolls att most of ground malt, but in the steel mill, the same quantity yields him twelve bolls. I own he told me the difference in the brewing was not so great, but still he says he wou'd have a fifth part more ale by the steel mill, than by the other, which is considerable. Now, what I was thinking of was to fix a steel mill to the mill of Rothes, to make a bargain with the miller to lett him have the multure as usual, which wou'd be ane advantage to him, by enabling him to serve the sucken the better, because the meal mill wou'd go att the same time, and to make a bargain with the sucken, to divide with them the difference betwixt the ordinary produce of ground malt that the meal mill us'd to yield, and what the steel mill will yield—to lett them have the one half, which is a pretty good bargain for them—and I the other, for the charges of the steel mill. But to know whether this project wou'd be worth while, I must know first how much ground malt the meal mill commonly yields out of dryed malt, and 2dly, how much malt is ground in a year *communibus annis* att Rothes, and after knowing these, it will be easy to judge whether it will bear the expense, which, by the by, is a very small trifle besides the cost of buying the mill, and renewing when it wears, or spoils. You'l easily inform yourself of both these, and whether those concern'd will come into the bargain. I doubt whether I shall trouble you with so long ane epistle in heast. I ever am, dear Rot,

yours,

Edr., Octr 22d, 1729. P. GRANT.

No. XXIII.

Dear Robert,

I have yours of the 26th ulto. before me; and have, in obedience to your commands, (tho' a litle agst the grain of my lazy disposition), wrote two letters—to Grant and Delrachny—but as for the Coll, since you live att his door, ye must e'en take the trouble of asking the favour of him in my name . My contracts with Coll. Guest are att last sign'd, and I send you a copy of them inclos'd. The books ye wrote for to the children, shall be sent by first opportunity. Achoynany's servt was gone before I gott your letter. I have, att last, gott the plough you're so fond to see, and shall send it by first ship, and shall probably send a boll of haws with it. Till this hour, I can say nothing about the money I was to remitt you. The gentlemen who owe it, say they have been disappointed of great sums, and all that remains to be done is that I have employ'd several hands to find them the money to borrow. I shall be glad to hear, from time to time, as ye gett meal to buy to make up my bargains: I dare say the sooner ye do it the better. I know not how it's in your countrey; but it has been ane extream sickly season here for some time, and I wish it may not grow worse. My family have had a share of it, but, I thank God, wee're now pretty well. I am,

dear Robert,

yours,

P. Grant.

Edr., Novr 13th, 1729.

No. XXIV.

Dear Robin,

By last post to Aviemore, I sent you all the money I can scrape together att this term, which, in haill, amounts only to £266: 13: 4d st, to witt: the bill due by fforbes to Mr. Russel, which ye desired me pay and take ane indorsation, but it is only

£90 st instead of £100 st as ye imagin'd, and a bill by Rothimay on his Lady,[1] payll at sight, for £176: 13: 4 st. I shall be impatient till I hear they're come safe to hand, therefor pray faill not to advise me how soon ye gett them.

Yesterday I receiv'd yours of the 2d, with Stephens'[2] bill to you on Mr. ffordyce, indors'd to me, for £8: 16 st., which he has accepted, and it will be no trouble to me to negotiate as many such bills as ye please to send me, considering how much trouble of that, and other sorts, I give you. I have told Geo. Gordon I am to pay him, as ye desired me, but have not yet pay'd him.

You cannot give me greater joy, than by telling me from time to time, of your sinking my debts: I hope if my funds with you answer, they, with the small remittances made by last post, will well nigh make me a free man in your countrey.

I'm sorry ye have not yet bought any meal for me; however, if ther be plenty in the countrey to sell, which ye cannot faill to know, ther can be litle danger of your not getting all I want: the only hazard is the rising of the price, and I can't imagine it will, in any event, rise much higher than what ye tell me they demand with you. I have, indeed, very little skill of those matters, but I think people seem to be grally of opinion the mercats wont be so high this year as the last. The bear is already a litle fallen, but it's thought meal will sell better than the bear, tho' not so well as last year. I have pretty good authority for it that Coll. Ogilvy[3] is a buying my Ld Kinnoul's[4] meal that he offers . . ., and will give no more, and the seller wont sell it under £6, which I think, co[nsidering] he has neither the risk and expenses of the sea carriage, nor the sea la———, [c]heaper than it is with you,

[1]Isobel, daughter of Rev. George Meldrum, minister of Glass.

[2]*Vide* Note to No. XXVII.

[3]Perhaps the Colonel Ogilvie of whom Sir W. Scott, in "Tales of a Grandfather," has the note in reference to the Union:—"The Chancellor, Lord Seafield, objected to his brother, Colonel Patrick Ogilvie, that he derogated from his rank, by trafficking in cattle to some extent. 'Take your own tale hame my lord and brother,' answered the Colonel, in his Angus-shire dialect. 'I only sell *nowt* (nolt), but you sell nations,' "

[4]George, 7th Earl of Kinnoul.

notwithstanding the difference of the odd stone; and I can't give you a better authority for the prices. I have not heard of any foreign demand for meal, but ther may be such for all that.

Since ye left it to my wife's choice to advise Dr Clerk, or any oyr physician she pleas'd, about your son,[1] as she is not acquainted with Clerk, she chose to advise Dr Pringle, the Phisician she commits the care to of her own health, and all her family, and I gave her two guineas to give him. He has given his advice in writing, which I suppose she is to send you. She tells me he approves of your taking Mr Smith att Perth's advice, and wishes only he were with the child to give him his assistance, but ye wrote your orders about Mr Smith so short, that she's att a loss whether to send the Coll's servt that road, or to send a copy of your information, and of the Dr's advice to Mr Smith. Nor do I so much as know whether you are already acquainted with Mr Smith, or if I should send him fees, in case you are not, or whether I shou'd ask of him to go your length. However, the good wife, who is just now abroad, must determine all those matters when she comes home.

Delrachny writes me his son gives up his ffactory, without telling the reason, which putt my imagination a litle upon the rack, but I was surpris'd this day to hear that he had fallen in arrear: so it seems he quitts his office as other great men do. Pray explain the matter to me, for, to be sure, ye know exactly how it stands. Give my most humble service to your spouse, and to the Coll, and I shall be glad to hear of your son's recovery. I am, dr Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

Edr, Decr 16th, 1729.

My wife tells me McDonald has disconcerted all her measures about your son, by refusing to go by the way of Perth, but I believe she writes you herself more fully. McDonald carries north

[1]William.

with him the two books ye wrote for to my children, viz., the Dictionary, and Kennett's Antiquities; he is to cause putt them up with the Coll's sons' books. I can't just now answer parly yours of the 12th; but what in all the earth puts it in your head that I'm in a condition to buy land? I assure you, if it were not a very small trifle for my conveniency, such as I ment: to you some time ago, it will be a very tempting bargain will make me buy any as long as I have debt, and I can see no advantage att any rate in buying lands that already hold of me, and pay me so considerable a few duty.

Decr 20th.

No. XXV.

Dear Rot,

This afternoon I gott yours of the 29th ulto. Some posts ago I answered your letter anent the disposal of my money rent; I hope it is come to hand before now, and therfor I shall not repeat, except in generall, that I approvd of what you proposed, that att present I wou'd make the best shift I cou'd without taking any from you, but hoped that agst Whits: you wou'd give me some help by the price of my meal sold to the Y. B. &c. I likewise told you that my wife desired that the boy John Man be sent up with the first occasion.

You really settle many more ministers than I can pretend to do: ther's only one poor fellow, that's marry'd to my first cusin, that I have thir severall years wanted to have provided, and I have not for my heart been able to do it. However, the minute I gott your ler I apply'd to the great manager of the King's Bounty, Mr Jno Walker, for your friend, Mr Stuart (to whom I find Lewis Chapman[1] has likewise writt about him) Wee shall

[1]Perhaps the Rev. Lewis Chapman, minister of the parish of Alvie; ordained 25th September, 1728; translated to Pettie, 30th March, 1738. Shaw's "Moray," Vol. III, 383.

have his assistance, and, by his direction, I am to apply to our Prinll and Professor of Divinity, but I shall have time enough, for nothing can be done till the last Thursday of this month, and no letters are yet come from the Pby concerning Mr Beaton. Pray remember the visite you're to make me this spring. I am, dear Rot,

yours,

P. G.

Edr., Febry 7th.

I'm forc'd to write by this post to remember Dell. of the bill to the bank which fell due the 28th ulto., and you know how punctuall they must be.

No. XXVI.

Sir,

I saw your letter to Tammore, but have not yet come to a resolution how much I shall take of either of the wines ye sent me. Meantime please send me by the bearer two dozen of the unwax'd wine—I mean the smallest sort of the two. Probably I may take a hhd of one or t'other; but I own I think them a litle dear (espelly the wax'd wine). If I take a hhd however, I suppose you don't ask more of me than ye sell it att to every body else, but if ther's any difference when I take such a quantity, please acquaint me. I am, Sir,

your most humble servt.,

P. Grant.

Elchies, May 5th, 1732.

Endorsed:—To John Robertson[1] Merchtt in Elgin.

[1]John Robertson was Provost of Elgin from 1734 to 1737; and in 1736 Sheriff Substitute of Moray.

No. XXVII.

Dear Rot,

Yesterday, upon receipt of yours of the 25th, I went to Mr. Colquhoun,[1] who has been very bad of the cold, and spoke to him so effectually for your friend Mr. Geo. Grant,[2] that this day he wrote me very anxiously in his favours to Sr Harry.[3] He sent me his ler open, and I added a postcript. Mr. Colquhoun wrote also yesternight to his father that he wou'd use his interest with Sr Harry. So that, as I never found you remiss in any thing that concern'd my interest, you see I'm willing to make the best return I can, as farr as I can serve any friend of your recomending. I wrote to you, I think, by last post, my opinion of Y. B., and I'm sorry I have not heard any thing since to alter it to the better. I forsee that, shou'd the worst happen, ther will be a great deal of confusion, and I think you shou'd, in all events, endeavour to gett some writing from Mr. Steven[4] ascertaining the extent of the debt due you—I mean the parlar sum—and, considering the danger they are in, if you can gett timber in payt, att any reason-

[1]This is apparently Lewis Colquhoun of Luss, second son of Sir James Grant of Grant, who, on the death of his brother about this date, succeeded him as "younger of Grant." In a "List of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, 1746," preserved in the British Museum, the following note appears opposite the name of Mr. Lewis Colquhoun:—"Attended the bar for some years, having been marry'd to a daughter of the late President Dalrymple's; never had any share of business; is Member of Parliament for the Shire of Murray, and known by the name of Grant, being eldest son to Sr James Grant of Grant."

[2]Possibly the Rev. George Grant, minister of Boharm, ordained in 1734; translated to Rathven in 1752; died 18th March, 1789. This minister certainly was intimate with the Tammore family. *Vide* App. Nos. XLVIII and L.

[3]Sir Harry Innes of Innes. He married, in 1727, Anne, second daughter of Sir James Grant of Grant.

[4]It is presumably to this gentleman that the Rev. Dr. W. Forsyth refers in his work, "In the Shadow of Cairngorm," pp. 201-2: where he writes of the York Buildings Company as follows:—"In short, they carried on works in this part of the country to such extent and magnitude that they sent from England a gentleman of the name of Stephens (of that rank and condition in life that he had been in Parliament), with a suitable salary for superintending the works. He acted as their agent and chief manager, and such was the credit and influence of the Company, at least for some years, that the notes of hand of this Mr. Stephens passed for cash, just as current as the notes of the Bank of Scotland or Royal Bank do at this day."

able rate, you shou'd take it tho' you have no present use for it; but in that case, be sure to carry it off, and not leave it with them. What ye write me of Mr. Allan is no more than I expected: therefor, ther's no help for it. If Sr Th:[1] wont give you security, even lett the diligence be execute; but I own I suspect your messr, for I saw one of your lers to him which he sent to Sr Th: and he to his doer here. You'l wonder that I can't yet tell you whether I can allow you to draw on me att Cand. for any moey or not, but I own I can not. I shall, if't please God I live so long, probably be more learn'd in that point next year, which minds me of a lady of my acquaintance, who learning to play att cards, studied first when she shou'd draw the stake. But I take a different course, and want first to learn to play the cards, since the stake will follow in course. I'm very glad of poor Willie's[2] recovery. You see I'm almost as good a guesser as any old wife in the countrey. I thank God, my family is much better than they were, and better than many of my n[eigh]bours. My wife wants much to know what's become of the things she left to come by sea. I'm told some of the servts have most of their cloaths among them, and parly, John Dingwall the most of his linnens. Make my compliments to your spouse, and the Coll. and his family. I am,

dear Rot,

yours,

Edr., Jary 12th, 1733. P. GRANT.

No. XXVIII.

Dear Rot,

I suppose you have long e're now gott my letter, by Mr. Colquhoun's servt, of a pretty old date, for it was writt near a fortnight before he left Edr, and since that time I have only gott one from you, and that one without a date. I believe our

[1]Sir Thomas Calder.

[2]Tammore's son.

correspondence with the West Indies is more frequent and certain than it is with your countrey by sea; for I have not heard a word of the things you sent to Portsoy, nor have I so much as gott a bill of leading; so I fancy they're still lying there. I have bought two carts for you here, for patterns, qch have also been lying ready the most of the winter for ane opportunity, and had one offered you wou'd also have gott your fitchpease; but I find I must give over all commerce by sea. I approve much of your beginning the ditching in Overtoun, and the rest of the improvements ye write me of. Go on and prosper.

My wife bids me assure you that you're so farr from having disoblig'd her, that she thinks herself extremely oblig'd to you; but now that she has gott a house large enough for all her family, and a very good free air, she wou'd be reproach'd by her neighbours, shou'd she send any of her bairns to the norlands. Besides, she has some time ago agreed to send Babie[1] to her sister Luffnes in exchange for one of her daurs that's of age for the schools; but she gives the Lady Tammore a thousand thanks for her kind offer. Sr Rot. Dickson gives you his service. Wee flitted last week to our house in the Canongate, and Saturday my wife and I came out here, and to morrow, God willing, wee go to Luffness. I carry both my sons into town this summer, but whether when this quarter is done, which will be the 29th June, or when their harvest vacation begins in August, I'm not yet quite determined. I suppose the Coll. will think it proper that wee then pay up Mr. Cockburn's wages, and, if you desire it, I shall pay up his fourth share, and, by the by, you are now another quarter in my debt for Jamie.[2] I am advis'd to bring Mr. Cockburn into town with

[1]Doubtless Barbara, Lord Elchies' daughter.

[2]Colonel William Grant's son, afterwards General James Grant of Ballindalloch; at this time in his 14th year. Served with 1st Royal Scots in Flanders, 1746-8, and at Culloden, 1746; surprised and captured at Fort Duquesne, 1758; Lieut.-Colonel of the 40th, and Governor of East Florida, 1760; defeated Cherokees at Etchoe, 1761; M.P., Wick, 1773, and Sutherlandshire, 1774 and 1787-1806; commanded Brigades at Long Island, Brandywine and Germanstown; captured St. Lucia and held it against d'Estaing, 1778. Major-General, 1777; General, 1796; Colonel 11th Regiment of Foot, and Governor of Stirling Castle; died 13th April, 1806.

my bairns, and that he will be much more necessary for them there than att Dalkeith. I fancy the Coll. will make no difficulty of continuing Jamie att Dalkeith,[1] tho' without a governour, as well as Ld Minto,[2] Sr Rot. Dickson, and many more whose children are younger than he; and he may believe that Sr Rot. and I will take all the care of him wee can.

My servts beginn to despair of getting the things that were sent to Portsoy, espelly the chamber maid, who is going to another service; and even my wife is a litle anxious about them, therefor I wish your friend wou'd lett me know what is become of them. I am, dear Rot, yours,

P. GRANT.

Carberry, Aprile 23d, 1733.

No. XXIX.

Dear Rot,

The half of the anxiety you show about our friend Sandy Grant's[3] bill on you, wou'd have been sufficient to make me use all my endeavours tho' I had no concern in the drawer. He left this place in compy with our chief[4] yesterday morning, and will be with you before this can reach you. I heard him talk of it, and it seems the matter was so farr settled before I gott your ler that Mr. Colquhoun had order'd his servt to enquire att some of the ordinary factors if any such bill was come to their hand, but gott no account of it. Yesterday he and I sent to John's Coffee-

[1]Friday last died Mr. John Leslie, Rector of the School of Dalkeith, who by his judicious method of teaching and prudently adapting himself to the various capacities of the youth under his charge, had acquired the character of one of the first masters of this age. "Cal. Mer.," 20th August, 1739.

[2]Sir Gilbert Elliot, Bart., a Lord of Session and Justiciary, who, by his wife, Helen, daughter of Sir Robert Stuart of Allanbank, had a daughter, Jane, the authoress of "The Flowers of the Forest.'

[3]Perhaps Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch.

[4]Sir James Grant of Grant.

house,[1] and desired the keeper, if the bill comes there, to send the crer to him or me, to gett payt, and wee concerted, one way or other, to clear it, when it shall appear. This day I call'd att Thomas Gordon's[2] as you directed; and he has agreed to advance the money to take up the bill whenever it falls due, and is presented; and, for finding out to whom it is indors'd, is to make enquiry who is Capt. Rutherfoord's ordinary correspondent, and will take Capt. Grant's[3] bill on Mr. Fury,[4] as you propose: so I think you may make yourself easy. You need not bid me dispose of the rest of my meal, for I'm resolv'd never to sell a haddish of it; and I dare say I need not putt either Delrachny or Rothy[5] to the expense of the postage of a letter, and that if you'l but write them that I begg the favour of them, they'l do what they can; and you know I never did limit any body to a certain price, to whom I gave the trouble of such a comission. You may tell Rothy that a certain friend of his has him much at heart.

I'm glad you please the fashion of the carts; and as to the weakness of our horses, I have alwise thought that was our great loss, and that it wou'd be much the advantage even of our tenents, espelly the more substantial ones, to keep stronger horses. I'm perswaded ther's not near so great difference between the expense of the one and the other, as ther is in their work. I'm glad to hear the good accounts of my bee hives, but I'm afraid it's a wood

[1]This was the resort of the judges and lawyers of the 18th century for consultations, and for their "meridian," or 12 o'clock dram; for in those days every citizen had his peculiar *howff*, or place of resort, by day or night, where merchants, traders and men of every station met for consultation or good fellowship, and to hear the items of news that came by the mail or stage from distant parts. James Grant's "Old and New Edinburgh," Vol. I, 178-9.

[2]A watchmaker in Edinburgh.

[3]Captain (afterwards Major) George Grant of Culbin, who, on the death in May, 1733, of Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch, succeeded him in the command of the "Grant" Independent (Black Watch) Company.

[4]Peregrine Fury, appointed agent to the Highland Independent Companies, 24th April, 1725; Secretary to Chelsea Hospital, "General Evening Post," 2nd April, 1743.

[5]James Grant, yr., of Rothiemurchus; he acquired the sobriquet of "The Spreckled Laird"; married Jean Gordon of Park, and was for a time factor for the Gordon estates in Badenoch. *Vide* App. No. CXIX.

Easter Elchies House.

From drawing kindly loaned by Mr. Thomas Ross, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., Edinburgh.

in a wilderness. I cou'd have honey sent me sooner from Narbone than from Elchies by sea carriage. It will really be a loss to my wife if she getts not her things very soon from Portsoy; for besides what other things are there, ther are the hangings of the bed that she intends for her sons, that she has been all this time waiting for. She will send you her own directions about the wool, as I suppose, but she has given me none. I approve of your selling the old gray; but for the other, I'm not sure whether I mayn't make you a visite for a few days next harvest, and in that case, I may have use for him. Otherwise, since he continues so very wise as not to cart, I wou'd e'en lett him go att what can be gott for him. Dear Rot, for what end do ye want any further answer about setting the new land in the Muir? It's long since I left it wholly to you to do with it what you liked. I'm of your opinion that its very proper to sett it; but att what rate it may or shou'd be sett, I know no more than the man in the moon; and ther's no fear that you don't raise it to as high a rent as ye can. This, I think, answers yours of the 29th ulto., so it only remains that I begg you'l make my compliments to Miss Ann,[1] to the Lady Tammore, and Willie; and am, dear Rot,

yours,

July 5th, 1733. P. GRANT.

No. XXX.

D Rot,

My chief purpose in going north, was to attend my chiefess,[2] and now that she is gone so early that I cou'd not attend her, I doubt I shall not sie the ancient banks[3] this season.

[1]Anne, eldest daughter of Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch. She married (contract dated 2nd June, 1735), John Forbes, younger of Newe. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 511.

[2]Lady Anne Grant, daughter of Sir Humphrey Colquhoun of Luss.

[3]The banks of the Spey. The House of Easter Elchies is beautifully situated on an eminence on the left bank of the Spey, nearly opposite Aberlour, and is three storeys high, with a slated turret and dome. In 1857 it was quite altered and almost rebuilt. Shaw's "Moray," I, iii (1882).

I spoke to Rothie about my meal, and I hope he'il give what assistance he can in disposing of it. I shal deliver your commands to Francis Scot,[1] but I have not seen him since I gott yours of the third. If I have any honey worth the while, lett it be drop't as soon as ye can, and send both it and the wax to Abdn by land, rather than wait so long for it as I did last year. I'm oblig'd to run away to the Commission, and have only time to bid you make my compliments to Mr. Grant of Ballindalloch and Miss [A]nn, and Megg up by. I am, d. R.,

yours &c.,

[unsigned].

August 9th, 1733.

No. XXXI.

Dear Rot,

I have yours of the 15th, with Lieut. Grant's[2] bill, on Peregrine ffury, of £15: 15 st, which shall be sent to town to be sold the beginning of next week. I assure you ye have baulk'd my fancy not a litle, in not coming here this vacance. If you come up the first of June, I may gett some hours of you now and then in the afternoon, in Ed, but can have no time of you here, if it is not from Saturday's afternoons till Munday mornings, so that I know not what to say. I wou'd gladly see you before August, and yet I doubt I should not before then gett so much spare time of you as I cou'd wish. But, in all events, it will be still a greater disappointment, if you don't immediately remitt me att least a hunder guineas besides any ballance of the within acct that is yet in my hands. How my acct with you stands, I know not, but I hope the price of the Y. B. timber will answer about this

[1]He seems to have been in Lord Elchies' employ. *Vide* App. Nos. XXXV, XXXVI, XLII, XLIII, XLVI and LII.

[2]Lewis Grant of Achterblair; Second-Lieut. of the Highland Independent (Black Watch) Company, commanded by Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch, 24th April, 1725; Lieutenant in Highland Regiment, 25th October, 1739; Captain-Lieutenant, 24th June, 1743; Captain, 1st May, 1745; died 12th June, 1756.

time; and I wish you wou'd fall on some way to gett me payt of Ardross's bond, and the ballance due me by Sr Thos. Calder, to help me out a litle, for this last plenishing year has been a very severe one. I have sent you a short sketch of the acct of the disposal of the three articles ment in yours, and of the ballance yet in my hands. I had clear'd with Balnadaloch when he was here, but that I wanted to have you present. You know you need ask none of my advice about the sale of my meal: you understand that matter much better than I; but I fancy it will sell pretty well. I heard a gentleman on the coast of ffife, or rather Clackmannan, find great fault with our north countrey lairds for sending up victuall to spoil their mercats, which were pretty high, and wou'd have risen had not the north countrey keept them moderate, but they are still pretty well. I ever am,

dr Rot,
yours,

Shank,[1] May 23d, 1735. P. GRANT.

Your friend Robert[2] is very well, and likes his trade, but he has cost me pretty dear. The bill goes in to Edr with this.

Endorsed:—Lord Elchies' letter of the 23d May, with a note of the payments made by him for Mr. Grant of Ballindalloch. 1735.

No. XXXII.

Dear Rot,

By last post I wrote fully anent your draught on Duncan Mckintosh,[3] which I have still by me, and have yet no accounts

[1]James Grant, in his "Old and New Edinburgh," Vol. I, 254, mentions that Sir George Mackenzie of Rosehaugh, King's Advocate during the reigns of Charles II and James II, "had a country house, ten miles south of Edinburgh, called Shank, now in ruins."

[2]Presumably Lord Elchies' son, who entered the Navy.

[3]Probably Duncan Mackintosh of Essich, who engaged in the droving business. *Vide* App. No. XLI. He failed in January, 1737. In the "Ballindalloch Estate Accounts" are the following entries:—"1728. By the price of 10 oxen sold to Duncan McIntosh at 29 pounds each. . . 290. 1734. By the price of 9 oxen sold to Duncan McIntosh of Essich, drover, in August, 1734, at twenty three pds each. . . 207."

of his being come to town, and no great hopes of his answering the draught when he comes; but pray tell me whether I shall protest it or not. This day I have yours of the sixth, with Mr. Johnstoun's receipt to Mr. Wm. Grant for two sums, being in haill £14: 6: 3, which, as you directed, I gave to ffr. Scot, and he tells me Mr. Grant has paid one of the sums, which I think is £13 and some shillings, but he has delay'd the other till he look his books, and I have given ffrancis a note from your letter of the accounts he is to pay.

I think Mr. Stuart might very well have rested upon a reindorsation of his £50 bill, without a formall assignation. However, since you desire it, I have given the bill and protest to draw the assignation by, and the whole shall be sent with this, but I think you shou'd cause him pay the expense of all the dilligence, postages &c: as well as @ rent; the horning and ———ion you have already. Ther's also ane execution of arrestmt in E:——— later[1] and Farskin's[2] hands; it's not worth postage to send it to you, but he . . . . pay the expense. I wonder that no receipt was taken from any body for the 200 b: meall sold by the tutor of Gordon,[3] to entitle me to seek paytt from one or other. I'm told the Tutor is to call att me to morrow, and if he pays me I shall in my next acquaint you, which will be a receipt good enough, or if I forgett, putt me in mind to do it. I needed no caution not to insist for interest. You know that grally ev'ry year I pass near twice as much to Coll. Guest. His money was pay'd me only last week, tho' by the contract it was payll att, and bore interest from Lambmas; but he's a hard mercht that when he getts a tollerable good price, insists att payt

[1]James, 5th Earl of Findlater and 2nd Earl of Seafield.

[2]William Gordon of Farskane.

[3]James Chalmers, a son of the Rev. George Chalmers, Minister of Botriphnie; he was tutor to Cosmo George, Duke of Gordon, during his minority. "Scottish Notes & Queries," 2nd Series, Vol. VII, 95, 109.

on such trifles. I can do nothing with Ld Braco[1] till he come here, and by that time I hope you'l send me the instructions I wrote for in my last to enable me to finish with him. My wife approves of your yarn bargain, but I own I also forgott to ask her what quantity she wants. I am, dear Rot,

yours,

P: GRANT.

Edr., Novr 13th, 1735.

You have inclos'd Mr. Stuart's above bill with the regrate protest, and ane assignation by me to you. The tutor of Gordon has pay'd me £100 st as the price of the 200 bolls [m]eall sold to the Renfrew merchts, and as I wrote you above, since he desired no receipt from me for the money, this will serve for a voucher to you of the delivery of the meal.

Novr 14th. P: GRANT.

No. XXXIII.

Dear Rot,

I had yours of the 6th, and likewise your other letter of the 14th covering Capt. Grant's[2] draught of fortie nine pds st on Mr. ffury, payll the 25th March to you or order, and by you

[1]William Duff, created Baron Braco of Kilbryde, 28th July, 1735, and on 26th April, 1759, Earl of Fife and Viscount Macduff. He married, 1st, Lady Jane Ogilvie, widow of Hugh Forbes, yr., of Craigievar, daughter of James, 4th Earl of Findlater and 1st Earl of Seafield, Chancellor of Scotland, but, by her, had no issue; 2ndly, Jane, daughter of Sir James Grant of Grant, Bart., and by her had seven sons and seven daughters. "The Scottish Nation," Vol. II, 212.

[2]Captain George Grant. He seems for a time to have resided at Ballindalloch. In the "Ballindalloch Estate Accounts" are the following entries:—"1736. By Capt. George Grant his allowing me (Tammore) in ane accot betwixt us the half of the fees pd to the working serts. in Ballindalloch from Whit. to Mert. 1735, £3: 14: 9 (sterling); To cash pd to the servants at Ballindalloch as their fees from Whit. to Mert., 1735, and as these fees are to be divided 'twixt Capt. Grant and Mr. Grant of Ballindalloch, I'm to give Mr. Grant credit for the part the Capt. pays of them and Tom Horner for his said half year's fee £7: 9: 6 (sterling)."

indors'd to me value in acct. You can't wonder, if att this time of the session, I am not very punctuall in my answers, but since I had not time by last post to acknowledge the receipt of the bill, and was not very sure of having so much time even this week, I order'd ffr: Scot to write by last post. The bill I sold as usuall to the Royall Bank, and sent notice to Mr. Lesly to send me his acct, but it's not yet come to hand, and I fancy Geo. Gordon is as much hurried as I am, for he has not come near me for these accts you order'd to be pay'd him. The death of my worthy trustee friend, Delrachnie,[1] is such a loss as I have no hopes of having repair'd in that countrey while I live. What changes have happen'd there in a short time! My (almost) only intimates the Coll.[2] and Dell: are gone since I was last there! And tho' I have many relations, yet I have few comrads behind (I don't reckon your military folks as inhabitants of that countrey) and therefor it's no wonder if I be not very fond, except when necessary business calls me, of being much there. However, probably I shall be with you either this next ensuing, or in the harvest vacance; but I'm not sure which. I have spoken to the tutor of Gordon, and incline to take the same course he shall take as to my meal. He's offer'd 8 merks, but hopes to gett more, and therefor is to delay bargaining for this week. I know I have deals thir severall years both att Elchies and Rothes—I think in the Kirk—but the longer they're keept they're the better; and I'm in no fear of their spoiling. You may look at them, and if you think them in any hazard, cause dress them—I mean plain off the rough skin—but by no means sell them. I shall obey your other commands. I

[1]John Grant of Dalrachnie, died in February, 1736. *Vide* App. No. LI.

[2]Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch. It is curious to find Lord Lovat writing of the same couple to Sir James Grant of Grant on 21st February, 1736, in somewhat similar terms:—"I heartily regret the death of my worthy friend and comarad, Delrahny. You have lost one of your best kinsmen, and I have lost one of my most affectionat friends, and Colonel Grant and he were the two pretiest fellows that I knew of their own education this syde of the Grampions."

know not yet whether the £72 st will be pay'd, or when, only Lachlan Grant[1] seems to expect it. I am, dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Feb. 25th, 1736.

If any of Mr. Grant's[2] lands hold ward of the Crown, he shou'd write his uncle[3] to gett him a gift of his marriage, and to gett the ward &c: tax'd in time coming, which can only be done above. A gift of his marriage in the hands of a donator may make a heavy claim.

No. XXXIV.

Dear Rot,

Till yesterday that I gott your short letter by Mr. Wm. Proctor, and this day that I gott another of the 10th by the express to our young chief,[4] I cou'd not imagine what was become of you. I have given Mr. Proctor the best certificate I cou'd from information without any personall knowledge of him, but I have also gott him recommended to, I believe, almost all the prinll traders in Glasgow, and they will recomend him to their friends or correspondents in Virginia, who, to be sure, are neither few nor inconsiderable. I cou'd not go about it myself, but I putt

[1]Lachlan Grant of Gartinbeg, writer in Edinburgh, and agent there for the family of Grant. He was elder brother of John Grant of Gellovie. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 504. Among the "Hardwicke Papers" (British Museum), is a Memorandum in the following terms:—"The Earl of Findlater humbly intreats My Lord Chancellor will be so good as to recommend to my Lord Chief Baron Idle, Lachlan Grant, Writer in Edinburgh to be Steward of the forfeited Estate of the Family of Perth, he having given during the Time of the Rebellion many usefull and Substantial proofs of his Zeal for his Majesty's Service, and having attended his Royal Highness the Duke from Edinburgh to Inverness, and if I remember right to Fort Augustus."

[2]Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch. He was served heir to his father, Colonel William Grant, on 4th February, 1736.

[3]Sir James Grant of Grant.

[4]Ludovick Grant, yr., of Grant.

your letter in Mr. Geddes's hands, who immediately apply'd to my old friends the west countrey agents; so if he don't thrive, it's not for want of recomendations. The remainder of the price of the meal was pay'd fifeteen days ago, as well of your 101 : b : 1f as of my 285 bolls; and I gave the tutor of Gordon the skipper's rect wt your order subjoin'd, and a separate receipt for the money. I order'd ffr: Scot to acquaint you of it both the last posts, but they happen'd to be gone before I remember'd to tell him. Ther are pretty good offers for our meal this year; I believe wee may have £5: 10, but I wou'd gladly have last year's price, 8½ M. However, I told the tutor that att whatever price he sells, I'll do the same, since I'm sure he's a better merchtt than I am; but I know not if they'l allow us so many bolls less or more, or if they'll take it att Garmoch. I shall try what can be done wt D. McIntoshe's doer, but I hardly expect any success. The reason I inserted that quality of @ rent in my order anent Delrachny,[1] was that Lachlan Grant told me he had ane obligation for the @ rents, and I had no doubt, nor reason to doubt, that the whole price was long ago pay'd. I am so farr from counting narrowly, that had the debrs in that bill fail'd, tho' I had nothing to do with them, I don't know but, in honour, I shou'd have thought myself oblig'd to bear the loss; and, therefor, if @ rent was to be pay'd for the use of my money, I thought that, in all conscience, I had the best title to it. However, if Lachlan had made the least difficulty, I wou'd not have insert it, and as litle will I insist on it now, since Dell:[2] does. I begg you'l bestirr yourself in levying the rents: ther's come a demand upon me of above 3000 Ms

[1]Alexander Grant of Dalrachnie. He succeeded his father in 1736. He was appointed Collector of Cess in 1742 and again in 1746. He built the mansion-house of Inverlaidnan, in which Prince Charles Edward slept on 22nd February, 1746, on his way to Culloden. In 1751 he was one of the curators of William Grant of Ballindalloch. He married Helen Grant, who survived him. He died in December, 1765. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 527. Helen Grant was Lord Elchies' sister. *Vide* No. XLI.

[2]Dalrachnie.

that I did not look for, and it's possible I may be putt to the charge of 100 or £150 st more that I cou'd not either forsee; and I hate borrowing if I can help it; so that if you don't send me some, I shall be quite broke. I'm exceeding sorry for Jas. Anderson's death. I wou'd willingly preferr any of his family to the tack, but cannot think of giving it to one that's not fitt for it. Now that I think I have answer'd all your letter, I must next tell you that I wou'd give a good deal for a week or ten days of you here, to try your rhetorick with your friend John.[1] I know no sort of vice that the boy is addicted to, and I think he has ane exceeding good genius for letters; and, in particular, for the employment that I intended for him, the law; but I believe he's wrong in the head. He wrote me, a month ago, that he had ane irreconcileable aversion to the law, and he wou'd take no other employment but that of a soldier. After a good deal of trouble, I got that mad project beat out of his head, and discover'd, att last, that he had been building castles in the air. But now he'll be nothing but, as he calls it, ane English divine, and tells me that that was always his inclinations, tho' he before chose the soldier trade because he thought I wou'd not give way to the other. How to behave with him, I know not; but if fair measures won't do, I'm resolv'd that others shall, or I'll want of my will. I'm sure you'l pity me, and I wou'd not tell it you did I not know that if you cannot help me to perswade him, you won't discover his madness and folly. I don't like to dwell on this subject, and must therefor conclude. I am,

dr Rot,
yours,
P. Grant.

Edr, Feb. 18th, 1737.

Even my own family don't all know John's story.

[1] John Grant, Lord Elchies' eldest son.

No. XXXV.

Dear Rot,

I have just time to write you that this minute I had a message from Brig: Guest[1] to know if I shall have any more meall, of this year's farms, to dispose off than my standing bargain with him, and, if I have, that he will give me the same price for it. I know not the condition of our cropt this year, and therefor cou'd give him no answer; pray therefor lett me know, by first post, how much I may venture to sell, and att what price. Tho' a good many corns in the late places of this countrey are spoilt, I doubt ther wont be a very great price here; and I'm told they have so good a cropt in the west, and so well winn, that wee can have litle hopes from thence: but what it will give in our highlands you know best. I'm told Lovat[2] has sold att 8 sh 6d ye 9 stone. I am, in heast,

dr Rot,

Shank, Novr 10th, 1737. yours,

P. Grant.

No. XXXVI.

Dear Robert,

I'm forc'd to write this att a very unseasonable time least I lose the post, that is, before I have finish'd my afternoon's task, and cannot therefor answer particularly your letters. Br. Guest, after getting his answer from Inverness, sent me word that he cou'd not possibly receive my meall (I mean the 220 bolls wee were bargaining about) att Garmoch, but only att Portsoy; and thereupon I sent to him, once or twice, to assure him that, as I believ'd, Garmoch wou'd be full as convenient for him; and upon his still persisting, I sent, yesterday, to tell him that I cou'd not engage to deliver att Portsoy without advising with you, and to know whether he wou'd delay determining till I got your answer. But the answer return'd me was that he cou'd not delay; and that if I cou'd not serve him, he was to bargain with another this

[1] *Vide* Note to No. VI.

[2] The celebrated Simon, Lord Lovat.

day. Thereupon I consulted all your letters that, on so short advertisement, I cou'd find; by which I saw you are anxious I shou'd strike the bargain; and tho' you press much that Garmoch be the port, yet ye do not seem to write so as I shou'd give up the bargain rather than deliver att Porsoy. And as, upon your advice, I was unwilling to lose my merchant, I sent him notice, this morning, that however inconvenient it might be, yet if the time of delivery was so long that it wou'd not interfere with the throng of the seed time, rather than lose him, I wou'd deliver att Portsoy; and my servt brought me his answer that he cou'd want it till abt the end of Aprile; and that he seem'd pleas'd; and told him he had offer'd the skipper a guinea of more freight if he wou'd go to Garmoch, but he wou'd not. I have not yet seen him; but I think wee've agreed, and I thought it proper to acquaint you. If you disapprove att this time, you must be more positive in your advice next; which is all I have time to say.

I am

Edr, Jary 12th, 1738. yours

P. Grant.

No. XXXVII.

Abby Hill, near Edinburgh,

Robert Grant, Febry 17th, 1738.

Sr,

Please deliver, or cause to be deliver'd, to the order of Brigadr Joshua Guest, at the harbour of Portsoy, at such time as he shall require the same before the tenth of May next, he allways giving you notice fourteen days before delivery, the number and quantity of two hunderd and twenty bolls of good and sufficient oatmeall, at eight stone the boll, for which he hass accepted a bill payable to me of this date. I am, Sir,

your humble servant,

P. Grant.

To Robert Grant off Tammore.

Endorsed in Lord Elchies' writing:—Copy precept for meall—Elchies on Tammore.

No. XXXVIII.

Edr., March 2d, 1738.

Dear Rot.,

All that's necessary for me att present to write is that the tutor of Gordon was with me yesterday; he has yet gott neither money nor answer from his meall merchts. He goes north next week, and hopes to gett it before he goes; if he getts none then he's to leave with Geo. Gordon ane assignation to you in the terms of his letter; and if the money comes, it's to be given me, upon receipt, as you direct. If you can think of a more frugall way of sending up my cows, I shall be oblig'd to you; but I cannot think of any myself. When any of my wife's fine yarn comes to your hand, she desires it may be sent her. I am, in heast,

yours,

P. GRANT.

I go streight to the Shank.

No. XXXIX.

Dear Rot,

Your packett with the report of the D. of Gordon and Mr. Dunbar's commission came to hand last Thursday, just as I was coming out of town. I gave it to ffr: Scot to be showen to the tutor and Lud. Brodie,[1] and then to be given to the clerk to the submission. It's a great while since I acknowledgd both the receipt and the payt of Capt. Wallad's bill. That you may the better know the terms of my bargain with Brig. Guest, I send you inclosed a copie of the precept[2] that I gave him upon you

[1]Probably Ludovick Brodie, W.S., of Whitefield, son of Francis Brodie of Milntown, by his second wife, Miss Hay, sister of Hay of Brightmony. Ludovick is said to have been a man eminent in his day for law and of very convivial habits. Robert Young's "Memoir of the Family of Kings of Newmill," p. 12.

[2]*Vide* No. XXXVII.

Dear Pat

Your packett with the Report of the D of Gordon and Mr Dunbars commission came to hand last thursday just as I was coming out of town. I gave it to Mr: Scot to be shown to the Tutor and Lud: Brodie and then to be given to the Clerk to the submission. Its a great while since I acknowledgd both the receipt & the payt of Capt Wallads bill. That you may the better know the terms of my bargain with Col Brig: Guest I send you inclosed a Copie of the precept that I gave him upon you for the meall I intended to have sent it by last post but the hurry I was in made me forgett it. I wrote fully by last post about the meall The Tutor of Gordon told for you I have heard no further about it since I came out of town so I presume he has left a re-assignation for you in Mr Gordons hands and you may give what directions about it ye think

per I desired Jamie Grant to tell Mr Gordon that you had written me to advance him money when he should call for it But hitherto he has made no demand I am Dr Pat

Shank March 7th
1738

Yours
P. Grant

Fac-simile Letter of Lord Elchies.

for the meall. I intended to have sent it by last post, but the hurry I was in made me forgett it. I wrote fully by last post about the meall the tutor of Gordon sold for you: I have heard no further about it since I came out of town, so I presume he has left ane assignation for you in Mr. Gordon's hands; and you may give what directions about it ye think [pro]per. I desired Jamie Grant[1] to tell Mr. Gordon[2] that you [w]ritt me to advance him money when he should call for it, but hitherto he has made no demand. I am, dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Shank, March 7th, 1738.

No. XL.

Dear Rot.,

Tho' I have nothing materiall to say, I write you this, in performance of my promise, to tell you that I and my family continue, I thank God, very well. I have had no returns of the gravell since I saw you;[3] and have spent most of my time in hunting and visiting with Capt. Dickson, which I take to be the best way to prevent it. I hope Delrachny and you gott safe home, and that you found both your families well, and your cows return'd. I have not time to write Dell:, and therefor, as possibly he and my sister[4] may be desirous to know whether I

[1]Afterwards General James Grant of Ballindalloch. On 15th June, 1738, George Gordon, W.S., wrote (from Edinburgh) to Tammore as follows:—"The Colledge being now up, Jamie Grant wrote yow for your direction what he was to do the vacation, and expected ane answere last post: he is either to stay here or go north as ye inclyne, and wants to be advised. Elchies has invited him to the Shank, but he has delayed answereing till he hear from yow. The vacance continues till October or November."

[2]George Gordon, W.S.

[3]Tammore had been on a visit to Lord Elchies shortly before; on 23rd August, 1738, James Grant of Delnabo, wrote from Edinburgh to Tammore:—"As I am uncertain to see you befor you leave the countrie, you residing so much with Lo/ Elchies."

[4]Helen. *Vide* No. XLI.

have gott free of my gravell, I must trouble you to give them my service, and to tell them I have. Jamie Grant return'd some days ago, and told me that his brother[1] wou'd be here next day, but I have not since heard of him. He must be very shy indeed to trouble his friends, otherwise, he must be very busy. Pray write me how the good brothers are agreeing about that idle dispute, and which of them are angryest with me, for I take it for granted that neither is pleased. Give my most humble service to the Capt.[2] I ever am,

dear Rot, yours &c.,

[unsigned.]

Septr 5th, 1738.

My wife beggs you'll remember the twelve spinle of fine yarn she spoke; and she wants it as fine as you can gett it; and much finer than the last you sent.

No. XLI.

Edr., Febry 15th, 1739.

Dr Rot,

ffrancis Scot acquainted you by last post, because I had not time to do it, of my receipt of yours of the 2d with Mr. Grant[3] of Balnadaloch's bill on Mr. Peter Crawfurd for fifty pounds sterling, which he accepted, and on Munday last pay'd. This post brought me your letter of the 10th inst., covering a bill of thirty pounds sterling, drawen by Robert Taylor on Mr. Rot Nettleton, mercht in London, payll a month after date to the order of James Grant of Rothiemurcus, and by him indors'd to me value

[1]Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch.

[2]Captain (afterwards Major) George Grant of Culbin was apparently still residing at Ballindalloch. The following entry appears in an account between him and Tammore:—"1739—21st Decr. To the rent of the Mains of Ballindalloch and park of Badiglassan, cropt 1738 years £33: 6: 8 Ster."; and in the "Estate Accounts" for 1740:—"To the rent of the Mains of Ballindalloch Cropt 1740 to be accounted for by Major Grant at fitting accots betwixt him and the said Capt. Grant, £25 ster."

[3]At this date an Ensign. *Vide* Tammore's note at end.

of you, with a letter of advice. The bill, I sold this day to the Bank att par; but as they wou'd not take the letter of advice, my servt putt it into the post office: So much for business.

James Lesly spoke to me some time ago about your friend ye recomend—Wm. Grant—and told me your concern. All the service I cou'd do him was to recomend him to folks that might assist him, and suggest how, and to whom to apply, which I did.

I'm glad my sister[1] continues so well. I'm altogether of your opinion about their house[2]—not to repair it in heast—and it's lucky I wrote him so by last post, when he can't suspect that you prompted me. I wish he had keept the loss of his papers a greater secret: I mean that he had said nothing about it till he had try'd to gett all of them renew'd that's possible. I'm perswaded our chiefs will doe him all manner of justice, and even friendship; and as I wrote him, it's not of them I am afraid, tho' I think one day shou'd not be lost in supplying the papers he had from them, especially his tack. And I think our young chief shou'd give him a letter, promising to renew it in any manner that lawyers shall advise will be safe for him. But what I fear most is that other people with whom his father and he have had business take advantage of his misfortune, and therefore they must be managed both with prudence and without losing one minute, and I begg you'll assist him in that. I wish my sister wou'd go to Elchies, att least till she's recover'd: and yet I'm unwilling to press it least some of his friends shou'd misconstrue my meaning as if I advis'd her to neglect her husband's affairs. I am, dear Robert,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Endorsed in R. G.'s writing:—15 Feb, 1739. Lo. Elches' letter owning the recept of Ensigne Grant's bill of £50, and Tomson's bill of £30.

[1]Helen, wife of Alexander Grant of Dalrachnie. She is not mentioned in the Easter Elchies pedigree in "The Chiefs of Grant."

[2]"The Cal. Mer." of 1st February, 1739, has the following:—We learn from Strathspey that the fine lately built House of Alexander Grant of Delrachney Esq: was burnt down to the ground by accidental Fire, whereby the whole Furniture, Plate, and about 3000 Merks in Cash were consumed."

No. XLII.

Dr Rot,

By whose fault it is, whether of the people in the post office, or of my servants, I can't tell, but tho' I sent there almost ev'ry day last week, yet your letter of the 23d Feb. covering Mr. Hackshaw's bill of £60 st. on Allan Whitefoord to James and Wm Gordons indors'd to you for value, and reindors'd to me value in acct, came not to hand till Fryday morning when the post was gone, so that I cou'd not, till this post, acknowledge the receipt of it. On presenting, it was accepted by another gentleman in Mr. Whitefoord's absence. It only falls due this day, and, regularly, cou'd not be demanded for 2 or 3 days; but as I go out of town this afternoon, I hope they'll not scruple to pay it, or, which is the same, credite my cash acct with it this day.

I not only approve, but most heartily thank you for your strictness with the destroyers of my young wood. Isobell Gib[1] may, if she pleases, presume on my friendship, and probably she wou'd have it for her deceas'd husband's sake, did she behave discreetly, but I know no title she has to it when she disregards my interest. Examples must be made to terrifie others, and I know none so proper as those who otherwise wou'd be entitled to my friendship; for if they are not spared, others will have nothing to expect. God forbid that ever I, or any of mine, shou'd propose to make any profite of these creatures, but they must be punished, and ther are not wanting charitable uses to which the money can be apply'd. And even the beggars, if they are guilty, must not be spared. If they have not money, they may be punish'd in their persons; and rather than not punish them, I wou'd pursue them before the sheriff.

Do with the house of Edinvillie what you think best, and what you wou'd do were the land your own. My wife thanks you for minding her yarn. As to John, I'm afraid he will not disappoint my fears. Matters are farr gone, I doubt past recovery, and, I

[1] *Vide* App. No LIII.

assure you, not through my fault, to the best of my knowledge. I fancy I shall soon explain them to you more fully; meantime keep all to yourself. You must not pay his debts; and I'm glad that they were not pay'd when you propos'd, whatever I may do after this. I wrote likewise to Delrachny in time to have gone by last post, but it goes not till this week's post. I intended to have sent this by post, but I have accidentally gott the occasion of sending it by Mr. Wm. Grant's son. I am, in heast,

dr Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

Edr, March 6th, 1739.

No. XLIII.

Dear Rot,

It's so long since I heard from you, that I was almost afraid you had forgott ther was such a man, till this morning that Lachlan Grant gave me your letter of the 4th covering Capt. Grant's[1] bill of £30 st of the 1st, on Peregrine ffury, payll to you or order, and indors'd to me value in account, which I sold this afternoon to the Bank att par. However, I find out att last that you have been taken up with higher matters, matters of matrimonie, tho' you have not yet lett me into the secret, even when it is so stale that not only is the honeymoon passt and gone, but also I'm told the young goodman has thought proper to take some relaxation, and putt a very boisterous sea betwixt the lady and him. But I forgive you; It shows you're a good secretar, and I wish all joy and happiness to the young pair, with all my heart.[2]

[1]Captain (afterwards Major) George Grant of Culbin.

[2]The marriage of Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch with Penuel, 4th surviving daughter of Sir James Grant of Grant, would seem to be here referred to; though the marriage contract is said to be dated February, 1740. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 511; Alexander Grant, as has been already indicated, was an ensign in February, 1739, and probably had to join his regiment in Ireland shortly after his marriage.

Your advice about my meal had the appearance, not long ago, of being a very wholesome one. Troup sold a parcell att Dundee, in his way hither, att £5 : 5, and was resolv'd to sell no more att so low a rate, and he sold, I think, all his bear att £5 : 10. I have ask'd no questions about the prices since that time, and am resolv'd to ask none, but to leave it to you to dispose when and how ye think proper.

Lachlan also brought me the inclos'd letter and copy from All: Ross. If the assignation is fairly writt, and executed agreeable to this copy, I have no exception agst paying the money; but then the discharge must be by the wife as trustee for the bairns, with consent of the husband, and by him, as taking burden for her, and I shou'd be satisfied that you saw both sign it.

One of the Commissrs of Excise lately show'd me ane information of a most horrid, cruell, and barbarous abuse committed upon one of their officers in Geo: Davidson's,[1] such as wou'd be a reproach even upon Lochaber, if such a thing were done there; and yet this is the second villany of the same sort that, in my time, has been begun in that honest house. As it's impossible to believe that such a thing wou'd be attempted without letting George, or his wife, or both into the secret, so it will be hard to perswade folks in this countrey that such a thing cou'd be perpetrate without discovering the authors unless I or my friends in the countrey conniv'd, or, att least, wink'd att it. And you may judge how agreeable it must be to one in my office that ther shou'd be the remotest ground for having such a suspicion of them, and I'm sure the authors can have no more regard for me, or even for the countrey, than they have for common humanity. I think, therefor, both my credite and interest engag'd to have the actors and authors of so horrid a villany detected, and I must begg of you to bestirr yourself, in your usuall prudent way, to find them out, and send me what accounts you gett, and after you have gott any information that can be rely'd on, immediately secure such of them as live on my ground till, att least, they find sufficient

[1] *Vide* App. No. LIII.

baill. The gentleman promis'd to have sent me a copy of the information in order to be transmitted to you, but he has hitherto forgott to send it.

I shall deliver your message to my wife the first time I see her, which, I think, will be Saturday next. My most humble service to your spouse and to the Capt. I am,

dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Edr., June 11th, 1739.

No. XLIV.

Dr Rot,

I have just time to acknowledge the rect of yours of the 7th, which I gott this moment. I approve of your opinion about the ryot, and shall acquaint some of the Commissrs. It wou'd be a very great crime to committ any man without a warrand of comittment, and that too on a sign'd information; and you have no power to committ except to the Castle of Rothes.[1] I like John Grant to be tenent in Ardcannie[2] better than any I have yet heard of, but then he must live there; I'm clear for your comuning with him, but before you conclude shou'd you not ask Grant's consent? I am, in heast, dr Rot, yours,

P. GRANT.

Edr., July 12th, 1739.

Endorsed in R. G.'s writing:—Lo. Elches' letter annent a riot in Rothes, and annent the seting a tack of Arcany to John Grant. 1739.

[1]Edward I took up his quarters in the Castle or manor-house of "Rosers," or "Roseise," as Rothes is designated in the different versions of the Journal or Diary of his expedition. The keep was several storeys in height. Several houses in Rothes have been built from the stones of this fort, which the villagers burned many years ago as it became a refuge for tramps and thieves.

[2]In parish of Rothes. John Grant was "in" Ardcannie in December, 1743. "Rothes Parish Register."

No. XLV.

Dr Rot,

I was so hurried when I came out of town, that I had not time to answer your letter of the 20th ulto.; where it had lyen I know not (I suppose 'twas att Aviemore) but I gott it only yesterday morning. I sent ffr. Scot immediately to Mr. Hog's with your bill. He was out of town, but was expected home that night, therefor I left it with Francis to gett it accepted when he comes to town, otherwise to return it to you protested; but I'm glad that Francis tells me that one of the drawers, McGeorge, is a good man. I also left the letter with him, that he might write to you in case I shou'd not overtake the post. Our friend Balnadaloch is come to town, and was with me ane hour or two while my wife and I were packing our baggage, so you may believe wee had litle serious discourse, but I fancy I shall see him here to day or to morrow. He wants £600 st for his commission,[1] and Lachlan Grant is to try if he can gett it from the Bank on his, Balnadaloch's, credite and mine; if not, Lachlan says he can gett it from private hands, but, I own, I like the Bank better. I told him of the money you left in my hand, for which I gave you my note att last clearing; and which you then intended to answer any draught for his commission. But whether you have since brought it into your account with me, or whether you still intend it for the same use, I know not, and I wish you wou'd write me about it; for whatever shift I make, it's not reasonable he shou'd borrow money from others, while he has any in my hands, that is, if you still intend it for that use. I also acknowledge the rect of McPherson's[2] receipt of the 200 bolls meal

[1]This was, doubtless, the captaincy in Brigadier St Clair's regiment of Scots Royals referred to in "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 511. *Vide* App. No. CXL (1739).

[2]John McPherson, Barrack-Master at Ruthven. *Vide* App. Nos. XLV, LV and LXI.

inclos'd in your letter. I expected by last post answer to my wife's proposall of putting one of your nieces[1] into the Hospitall.

My wife thinks the yarn last sent, tho' a litle coarser, yet better than the other; that is, better flax and [bet]ter spun. As to the hams, I don't believe the difference is very great 'twixt sending them to Inverness, and sending them to Abdn where yee are sure of opportunities; therefore I wish ye wou'd send them there, for my wife says if she goe north next spring, it's probable she will not be very much att home, and need not make very great provision for living there; and, for the same reason, she wants the cows here, for otherwise wee must buy, and I wish ther were one young stot or two for the spring. I ever am, dr Rot, yours,

P. GRANT.

Shank, August 1st, 1739.

No. XLVI.

Dr Rot,

Last Thursday's night, att this place, I gott your last of 27 July, covering Messrs. McGeorge & Tod's bill, on Mr. Wm. Hogg, of £139: 10sh st, which was accepted by Mr. Hogg on Saturday forenoon. It came too late to acknowledge the rect of it by last post, and, had it come two days sooner, it, with the £150 st for which you have my note, might have prevented one of the bills[2] to the Bank for Ballindaloch's commission, that I told you of, I think, by last post. What is become of him, I know not; for I have not yet seen him, tho' I invited him both by word and write, not, indeed, in a very polite, courtly way, and, I fancy, there has lyen my error. Whether I shall att all see him, I know

[1]The daughters of Alexander Grant, Hillockhead, on Lord Elchies' Rothes estate; only one daughter is mentioned in Burke's "Landed Gentry of Great Britain" (1914), p. 813, viz., Elizabeth. She was baptised on 9th November, 1731, the witnesses being William Leslie of Balnageith and his wife, Margaret Gellie (daughter of the Rev. Alexander Gellie, Minister of Fordyce) then residing at Burncrooks, Rothes; John Leslie of Ardnellie; Robert Grant in Conrack; Elizabeth Grant; Magdalen Innes (wife of the Rev. John Paul, minister of Rothes). "Rothes Parish Register."

[2]*Vide* App. No. CXL (1739).

not; for I doubt not he will very soon have orders to return to the regt. Your nomination of your niece, I transmitted on Saturday to my wife's friend. But for your kirkmen, I am the worst hand you cou'd employ: I cou'd do them no service, without going into town, and were I there, all I cou'd do, wou'd be by the means of those very people that you tell me are already apply'd to. And as to the Sollr's[1] affair, if he comes to see me, I shall be sure to speak to him of it, but I can hardly think you wanted that I shou'd go into town on purpose to speak to him.

If you are burnt up with heat, wee are drown'd with rains, in so much that I believe harvest will hardly be begun in this countrey this month; and I doubt not meall will yet sell. It's true the cropt looks pretty well, but a late cropt is always dangerous. I ever am, dr Rot,

your own,

P. GRANT.

Shank, August 7th, 1739.

I had lately from Robie's[2] capt. as kind a letter, with as great a character of Robie as even you cou'd wish.

No. XLVII.

Dr Rot,

As I wrote to you last post, I wou'd not undertake to come to Edr express to execute your orders about your cusin, the clergyman. However, I have had ane opportunity this day. Your friend[3] is provided to ane interim living of £20 st yearly where one Tyrie was. I find, as to the Kirk of Strathdon,[4] matters

[1] *Vide* Note to No. XLVII.

[2] Lord Elchies' second son, Robert.

[3] Rev. —— Grant. *Vide* next Letter; and (?) same as William Grant in Letter No. XLI.

[4] *Vide* App. No. LIV.

stand pretty much on the footing you mention; the Soll:[1] expects a presentation to his friend,[2] and is well pleas'd you have secur'd the heretors. It will be proper they be keept in the same disposition, and without declaring themselves even in favours of the presentee, till they have our chief's application in his favours. This may be a new favour from the Soll. or the chief, as shall afterwards be advis'd. I am, in heast,

yours &c.,

The Soll's House, [unsigned.]
August 13th, [1739].

No. XLVIII.

Dr Rot,

I presume you had not, att writing your last letter of the 10th, gott my letters acquainting you of the money that Balnadaloch had taken from the Bank. I suppose that will prevent your drawing upon me, since he borrow'd it for the same use, and all you'll need now, I suppose, is to write me how much of those bills to the Bank I shall pay when they fall due.

You may believe none of your draughts on me wou'd be refus'd so farr as I cou'd honour them, and, indeed, I wou'd blame myself if I were very scrupulous with either him or you on that score, and you see I am not. After all, I know not whether I have disoblig'd him, or not. His stay in Edr was not very short, and yet I did not see him except the litle time that I was packing up my baggage and drawing on my boots att Edr. However,

[1]William Grant, son of Sir Francis Grant, Lord Cullen, was on 20th June, 1737, appointed Solicitor-General. In a "List of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, 1746," preserved in the MSS. Department, British Museum, is the following:—"Mr. William Grant, present Lord Advocate, had always a great share of business at the bar, and was distinguished for his good affection to the present Government, and thought to be much addicted to the interest of the Duke of Argyle."

[2]Amongst the State Papers (Scotland) in the Public Record Office is a Memorandum:—"To obtain a Presentation from the Crown in favour John Lumsdean preacher to the Parish of Strathdon, lying within the Presbytery of Alford, vacant by the Transportation of James Lumsden late Minister there to the Parish of Towie—recommended by Mr. Solicitor Grant."

that was no more than what I then told him wou'd happen. I'm sure I did not disoblige him with my complaisance or ceremony, for I show'd him none of it, neither now nor before. But I'm afraid you are bitt as well as I, and that if any thing has disoblig'd him, it is the using him with too litle ceremony, or (to speak politely) civility. But even if that is the case, he has but a small chance of any other usage from me, or, indeed, any of his father's or mother's bairns.

What's above was writt last night to gain time, and after writing, I recd yours of the 18th with the bill, Messrs. McGeorge and Tod on Mr. Wm. Hogg, of £162 st payll to me the 24th inst., and as bills are a litle to delicate to dally with, I sent ane express this day to Edr to present it; and can now tell you that it is accepted; but I doubt I must make a journey, myself, to Edr, Munday or Tuesday next, to gett payt of all the three, of which I shall acquaint you.

I can't offer payt of any of the bills to the Bank till they fall due. They wou'd not take it well to propose to them to discount interest, and I doubt they wou'd not take payt of the interest that's included till the term of payt, that is, about the 1st of Octr. And I fancy by your letter you'll remitt again that time as much as, with the £150 st., for which you have my note, will pay both bills; or, if its any short, so farr as I can spare out of my cash acct, I'll endeavour to make it up, tho', by the by, I'm to pay against Mart: above £250 st.

I don't att all grudge the price you have gott for my meall. The reason you give for selling, is unexceptionable; and it's in generall not unreasonable to sell att the mercat prices, whatever they are, tho' what you foresaw some time ago is very likely to happen. The meall wee call south countrey meal is already started to £5: 12, and all other grains in proportion, and its very probable will rise higher; for tho' ther's ane appearance of a pretty good cropt, yet ther's no victuall in the countrey, and the harvest will be very late. I don't expect closs harvest, whatever weather wee have, sooner than a fortnight hence.

I wrote to you last week from Edr about your minister, Mr. Grant. My wife thanks you for your care of her winter beef and pork. A neighbouring gentleman din'd with me this day, and begg'd I wou'd gett him likewise two stots. I told him they wou'd probably come dear, but he said he must take his hazard as I did. If you can serve him, mark them separate from mine, and their prices, and he must defray ¼ of the expense of sending them hither. I ever am,

dr Rot,

yours,

Shank, August 22d, 1739. P. GRANT.

You must send ane extract from the Session book of your niece's age. I can't yet tell you when she must be sent, but I'm told she must carry a feather bed into the Hospitall with her. The reason why they must have the extract of the age is that they receive none above ij years old.

No. XLIX.

Dear Rot,

By last post I advis'd you that Messrs. McGeorge's & Tod's bill on Mr. Wm. Hogg of £162 st was accepted, and now I'm to advise that it and the two former bills are pay'd. I thought it proper to go into town yesterday on purpose, and gott the money, and as neither of Balnadaloch's bills to the bank cou'd be pay'd, I thought it safest to putt the money into my cash acct.

When I was in town, I heard that your nephew John[1] has

[1]John Grant, son to Alexander Grant in Hillockhead (on Lord Elchies' Rothes estate). John was one of the witnesses to the signing of the Ballindalloch Estate Accounts at Tammore on 30th November, 1738. His father married Margaret, daughter of John Grant of Tammore, and so was brother-in-law to Robert Grant, the factor. Another son of Alexander and Margaret Grant was Robert, who founded the present family of Wester Elchies; whilst another son, James, was the father of Sir William Grant of Beldorney, Master of the Rolls, and his brothers, and thus was ancestor of the families of Beldorney in the parish of Glass and Hillersdon House, Devonshire. *Vide* Burke's "Landed Gentry of Great Britain (1914), p. 813. Sir William Grant, however, was not born at Elchies as mentioned in "Burke," but at Hillockhead, in the adjoining parish of Rothes. *Vide* "Parish Register."

given up his studies and taken himself to the sword, and as the story was told me, Coll. Grant[1] can give you a more particular account of it, he having, it seems, been present. If the story is true, and the young man irreclaimable, it's proper you acquaint me, for then, in good manners, I shou'd acquaint Sr All. Ramsay[2] that he may dispose of his burse otherwise; and I wish your nephew may do better for himself, tho' if he has no inclination to the office, I can't but approve of his conduct, for I shou'd be sorry if he or anybody were compell'd to enter into it.

You'll see in the news a report of a victory Admll Haddock has got: I wish it may be true, tho' I doubt of it. However, it will make me a litle impatient to hear of poor Robie.[3] I ever am,

dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

The first part of this ler was writt yesterday, the 28th.

Shank, Aug. 29th, 1739.

No. L.

Dr Rot,

Last week I had yours of the 14th, and yesternight I gott your other letter of the 21st instant. Capt. Grant's[4] bills fall due the beginning of next month, the first or 2d day of it, and then I shall pay one of them, which will cost me another journey to town, and as I have not yet gott, nor demanded, Grall Guest's money, will encroach a litle on my cash acct with the Bank, and

[1]Probably Lieut.-Colonel Lewis Grant of Dunphail.

[2]Sir Alexander Ramsay, 5th Bart. of Balmain. In a "List of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, 1746," preserved in the MSS. Department, British Museum, the following note appears opposite his name:—"Never had any share of business at the bar tho' he attended it while he was second brother to Sir David Ramsay of Balmain in the shire Mern, on whose death he retired and lives at his seat in the county." *Vide* also Part II, No. VIII.

[3]Lord Elchies' second son.

[4]Captain Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch.

but litle. Were ther any necessity for it, I cou'd pay the other likewise out of that acct, but then wou'd encroach too deep upon it, considering I shall have, I believe, about £300 st to pay against Mart. (in which, by the by, I'll need some remittance from you). And as the Bank don't demand their bills to be pay'd, or renew'd, till about six months from the term of payt, further than to note them, I think it better to lett one of the bills continue as it is till you make remittances, than to exhaust, so farr, my credite with the Bank.

I'm exceeding glad to hear that the story that was told me of your poor nephew[1] proves false, or, att least, that he's come to a better mind. But pray was it all a fiction? The circumstances told me tallied very well with what I know and you write me; and it's strange if the whole were hatch'd out of nothing. But whatever was in it, since the young man is come right again, I shall in due time putt Sr All: Ramsay in mind of his promise, and I believe the properest time will be next spring before, God willing, I go north, since I think Novr. 1740 is the time appointed for providing him; and I hope you'll putt me also in mind of it about that time.

The sooner the certificate of your niece's age is sent, it is the better. I approve of your resolution to prosecute the sojer for wounding John Dow;[2] but I dare say you don't think it worth the expense of a prosecution in the Justice Court; therefor ther is no choice in the Court; but either the Justices of peace or the Sheriff or Regality Court, according as the sojer is within the jurisdiction of the one or the other, and as you expect the fairest play in the one or the other. If the out-hounding can be prov'd agst Isobell Gibb,[3] she shou'd be prosecute likewise, but whether it can, or not, yet since the sojer accuses her, she must not remain in my ground after her tack is out.

[1] John Grant. *Vide* No. XLIX.

[2] *Vide* App. No. LIII. There was a person of this name "in Elchies" in January, 1726. "Rothes Parish Register."

[3] *Vide* App. No. LIII.

I have yet heard nothing of the good wife's hams or bacon, nor whether I can expect any honey this year. I ever am,

dear Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

Shank, Septr 26th, 1739.

It's my wife's opinion that till your niece be sent here, you shou'd take her to your own house, that she may be the less sensible of the difference twixt her father's house and the Hospitall; and may see better compy, and better things than she can be expected to see at home.

No. LI.

[To Lieut-Col. Lewis Grant of Dunphail.]

Sir,

As your letter of the 17th with your bill of £100 st on Capt. Wood, payll to Tammore, and indorsed to me, came to hand only this forenoon in the Session House, and that I cannot mind my own business till that of the lieges is over, I have scarce time, before the post go away, to write you this acknowledging the receipt of it, that you may give it to Tammore. I immediately gave the bill to Lachlan Grant, to present it for acceptance. He did not then find him, but expected to find him some time this day; but as I have not since seen Lachlan, I cannot tell you whether it is accepted or not, tho' I have no doubt that any bill you draw will be duly honour'd.

It was really not worth your while to make any apology to my wife or me for not enquiring about us when you was in town, tho' wee are oblig'd to you for taking that trouble. Neither of us is very willing to take exceptions against any of our good friends, or to suspect them of want of kindness, and were perswaded, that all the time you was in town, you was much better employ'd;

and tho' wee had not the pleasure of seeing or hearing from you, wee were very glad to hear you was well, and, if you have so much idle time to throw away, wee shall be proud of having the honour of seeing you on your return to Ireland. I am,

dear sir,
your most obedient humble servt,
P. GRANT.

Edr, Novr. 22d, 1739.

No. LII.

Dear Rot,

I have receiv'd yours of the 13th by John Grant, the son of my good friend, poor James Delnabo,[1] which was the first accounts I had of his death; and for his sake, as well as yours, his son may be assured of all the friendship I can do him. I had also yours of the 19th by All: Grant in Hillockhead, by whom I intended to send this answer, cou'd I yesternight have gott time to write it; but the saving 3d of postage was not worth the detaining him a day longer. Instead of £20 Scots to be given with his daughter[2]

[1]James Grant, writer in Edinburgh. Delnabo is in the parish of Kirkmichael, Banffshire. On 6th December, 1729, he wrote to Tammore:—"I am going on in a reduction of Mr. Stephens' right: Elchies is much my friend, and is one of the interdictors. I offer my service to my cousin; I expect to see you all early in the spring." Tammore's wife, Margaret Cumming, daughter of George Cumming of Recletich, may have been the cousin referred to. At all events, Lord Elchies did not forget his promise to Tammore regarding the deceased's son. On 12th January, 1742, John Grant of Delnabo, who was, like his father, a writer in Edinburgh, wrote to Tammore:—"I have every day fresh instances of my Lord Elchies's countenance and ffriendship, which, as it is of great use to me, so I am in the highest manner sensible of it; but as I have no opportunity to make any acknowledgements, must desire of you to let my Lord know in your own way that I am very sensible of his kindness, and can only wish that I don't prove unworthy of it." In a further letter to Tammore, dated 12th August, 1742, he wrote:—"I had almost forgote to tell you that I am admitted an Extracter, in consequence of the promise made by the Clerks to my Lord Elchies: my Lord was out of town before it happened, so that I have not had an opportunity to acquaint my Lord . When you have occasion to write his Lop, pray let him know that I am very sensible of his Lop's friendship and good offices in my behalf."

[2]Tammore's niece, mentioned in Nos. XLV, XLVI, XLVIII and L.

to the Hospitall, he left with me 40 sh. st., and the odd £4 Scots shall be apply'd towards buying her cloaths; but I hardly think this worth the bringing into your accts. When she goes to the Hospitall, I shall send you a note of the whole expence, and you can give me credite for any small difference ther may be over the 40 sh. She is in the meantime lodg'd att Shank, till I gett a presentation to her, for I shall have no opportunity of writing to my friend the patron till, I think, Saturday next. Thursday last I had Coll: Grant's[1] letter with his bill of £100 st. on Capt. Wood, payll to you att 8 days sight, and indors'd to me value in acct, dated the 16th, whereof I acquainted the Coll: that night.[2] It was accepted next day, but is not as yet pay'd, nor will it fall due this week. I shall be glad how weli the rents answer, for I doubt I shall need them as fast as ye can well send them.

I'm glad my sister is recover'd. If it had been a daur, perhaps no body would have quarrell'd her using her freedom, but as it was a son, I don't know but for all she has of them,[3] not only her husband, but likewise her chief and all the clan may have ane action of dammages agst her: therefor pray tell her for the future to take care, att least of the sons. I am, dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Edr., Novr 28th, 1739.

[1]Colonel Lewis Grant of Dunphail, 5th son of Ludovick Grant of Grant. He purchased the estate of Dunphail from the Dunbars, and died at Kingston, Jamaica, on 11th March, 1742, leaving a daughter, Anne (who married Mr. Patrick Grant, minister of Logie Easter), when the property of Dunphail, with the rest of his estate, passed to his nephew, Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 329.

[2]*Vide* No. LI.

[3]The only children of Alexander Grant of Dalrachnie mentioned in "The Chiefs of Grant" (Vol. I, 527), are:—(1) John, yr., of Dalrachnie, appointed Ensign in 1745 in New Highland Regiment; (2) Gregor, mercht. in Gottenburgh, died at Inverlaidnan before 31st October, 1753; (3) James, *in* Dalrachnie, who, as such, subscribed a petition for himself and Whiteraw's relict as to the settlement of the Church of Duthil in 1778. The wadsets held by his deceased father's trustees were redeemed by Sir James Grant of Grant in 1771, when James appears to have obtained a further lease of the farm. He married a daughter of Grant of Lurg, and had issue, a son and two daughters. (4) Margaret, alive in 1771; (5) Penuel, alive in 1771, married to Lieutenant John Grant, then late of 42nd Regiment; (6) Helen, alive in 1771.

Pray how does my good friend the Major[1] like his preferrmt? Or will he take it well to be congratulated upon it?

No. LIII.

Dear Rot,

This is to advise you that Coll. Grant's bill of £100 st on Capt. Wood is not yet pay'd. I gave it on Tuesday last to Lachlan Grant, and as the days of grace were run, order'd him (tho' much against my inclinations) to note it, which he tells me he did, tho' the Capt. offer'd him in payt a bill of as good a man as in Edr, that falls due Tuesday next. I take the Capt. to be a very good man, and Coll. Grant shou'd have allow'd me to forbear payt att least some days, if he happen'd not to have the money quite ready. But I had no powers to delay. I am, in heast,

dr Rot,

yours,

Edr., Decr 6th, 1739. P. GRANT.

No. LIV.

Dr Rot,

As I wrote to you last post that Coll. Grant's bill to you on Capt. Wood for £100 st, indors'd to me, was not then pay'd, and that it was, much against my inclinations, noted, I am now to tell you that, as he promis'd then, he pay'd it Tuesday last. If the Coll. give you any more such bills,[2] I wish he wou'd likewise give instructions not to be so precise in protesting, in case the money

[1]Captain George Grant of Culbin, on the formation of the Highland Independent (Black Watch) Companies into the Highland Regiment, was appointed Major, 25th October, 1739. On 18th June (O.S.), 1743, he was appointed Deputy Governor of Inverness. He was removed from the service by sentence of Court Martial, for allowing the rebels to get possession of the Castle of Inverness in 1746. He died in December, 1755, *s.p.*, and his estate fell to his nephew, Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant.

[2]This was not unlikely; as Tammore was factor for Colonel Lewis Grant as well as for Lord Elchies and Captain Grant of Ballindalloch.

does not answer att the day; because however well I may think of the person drawen on, I cannot, in common prudence, become caur for a stranger, which wou'd in effect be the consequence of any undue neglect without orders. I wrote Saturday was se-night for your niece's presentation, and do not know by what accident it is that I have not yet gott it, but I believe I shall know on Munday.

My wife has got the hams, but I don't remember you wrote me the number. She says ther are twelve of them including fore-quarters. I mention this, because I think the skipper told my servt they were fifeteen, tho' I presume he never counted them. I am,

dr Rot,

yours,

Edr., Decr 13th, 1739. P. GRANT.

No. LV.

Dr Rot,

Tho' I have not had any letter from you for some posts, yet I have wrote to you (I think for some weeks) every post. Last week I wrote you that in some days I expected ane answer from Bonington, and my daughter accordingly had one Munday last from her aunt,[1] promising that the presentation should be sent the end of this week or beginning of next.

After mature deliberation, my wife has altered her resolution of going to Elchies next spring, and tho' I did not propose the alteration, I can't say I altogether disapprov'd of it. Besides the pleasure of being there, the only other motive of going, was for the benefite of the goat whey.[2] She now considers that the season of it will only beginn about the time that I must return, and

[1] No doubt another sister of Sir Robert Dickson.

[2] An olden-time remedy for consumption, and the references to it throw light on the allusions to Mrs. Grant's delicate health.

therefor she thinks it better to go somewhere to the goat whey in June, when she'll gett it in greater perfection and plenty, and a great deal cheaper then by going in a great cavalcade with me. You have not told me whether you have made any bargain with your friend Grant[1] for a tack of Ardcanny, nor whether you have askt or gott the consent of my young chief, his present master.[2] I wish these things were settled as farr as possible in time, for I shall not be fond of a very long stay att Elchies without the good-wife, tho' I hope to find my sister[3] there to serve for a housekeeper; and therefor won't probably go till about the beginning of Aprile, and I shou'd be glad how few things remain'd then to be done. ffor the same reason, consider whether another thing might not be proper to be done even before I go: I shou'd not wish that Ringorm, or any other gentle tenents that are to be remov'd, had any pretence for quibling about their removeing. I don't exactly remember whether your factory contains ane express power to warn, flitt, and remove tenents, it's so long since it was granted, tho' I think it does; but still your clerk and officers may make some blunder in the precept or executions. Now, if you wou'd send me a note of the persons to be removed, and the lands possess'd by them as express'd in their tacks, I wou'd send you a copy of a warning, and of the executions, which last wou'd be a direction likewise to the officer how to do his duty. And if your powers are not explicite enough, I shall sign the precepts of warning myself, that they may be execute in due time before the term.

This day I was told in secret that Ld Br———[4] sells his meall att 8 Ms, payll Mart. next, att 8 stone, and that I may gett the same price; and I was ask'd by another what price I wou'd sell att, but I told them I did nothing of that sort without your advice, and therefor had not yet fixt on any price: all I can say is that meall sells here, att present, much dearer. The Duchess of

[1]John Grant. *Vide* No. XLIV.

[2]Ludovick Grant, younger, of Grant.

[3]Helen, wife of Alexander Grant of Dalrachnie.

[4]Lord Braco.

Gordon's[1] three year old meal sells in retaill att 10 sh. st; my wife bought within this fortnight six bolls of it att that rate. Pray how does your limestone quarries succeed? I am, in heast, dr Rot,

yours &c.,

Decr 19th, 10 att night, 1739. [unsigned].

No. LVI.

Dr Rot,

Yours of the 21st subjoin'd to James and Wm. Gordon's bill of the 17th on Couts and Compy for £57: 18: 9 st, payll to you att 8 days sight, and indors'd to me value in account, was brought out to me last night, and this morning I sent ane express with it to Edr to present it, who brought it back this evening accepted, and my correspondent promis'd to advise you, if the post was not gone. You'll think me a blundering beast for mistaking the sum in the bill, and then interlining it. The sum is £57: 18: 9 st.

Your hams I did not taste till yesterday, and I can tell you they're as good as I cou'd wish, for which I thank your goodwife, and they are the cheapest I ever saw, for which I thank you. In a word, my goodwife is so well pleas'd with them, that if Mrs. Grant wou'd not think it too great a trouble, she wou'd think herself much oblig'd to her if she cou'd provide her in two or three dozen such hams every year.

What's above was writt att Shank Fryday last, but ther was no opportunity of sending it to you till now. And this morning I gott yours of 28th ulto. covering Allexr Brebner in Portsoy's bill of £81: 16: 6 st on Mr. James Weems, clk of the post office, payll to you or order, att eight days sight, and indors'd to me value in acct, which bill was accepted this forenoon. It seems by your ler covering this bill that you had before sent another letter by the same post, but that one I have not gott, and they say at the post house there is none other there for me; therefor, if it's of any

[1]Henrietta Mordaunt, widow of Alexander, 2nd Duke of Gordon. She appears to have resided at Prestonhall in East Lothian.

moment, call for it att your post house. It's now late, and I cannot write more fully. I am,

dr Rot,

yours,

Edr., Janry 3d, 1740. P. GRANT.

I wish you and the curer of my hams many happy years.

No. LVII.

Dr Rot,

Tho' James and Wm. Gordon's bill on Couts and Compy was pay'd the 8th of this month, and tho' this day se-night I gott your other letter of 28 Decr that I wrote to you on the 3d inst was not then come to hand, yet as ther was nothing very materiall in that letter I thought it not worth the postage to write till I cou'd also tell you that Brebner's bill on James Weems is pay'd, which it was, Munday last.

My wife makes no doubt of her welcome to your house, and I'm sure she won't have so good goat whey quarters anywhere else. However, I believe she cou'd soon convince you, as she did me, of the reasonableness of altering her purpose. But wee can find other ways of giving both Mrs. Grant and you trouble enough without going to sorn upon you; particularly, I must again remind you of my last commission for hams, for I like those you sent me still better and better.

I shall certainly endeavour to be with you as soon as I can, but I wish that, in the meantime, you'd prepare things as farr as you can by bargaining, att least comuning, with new tenents, particularly Jno Grant if our chief agrees. I shall not, indeed, be against his keeping what he has, as well as mine, but then he must live with his family att Arcanny.

As to meall, you know I'm not rash in selling, att least not without your advice. I doubt not prices will rise, tho' not higher, I hope, than they are just now, on occasion of this long continued frost, which is the most intense I ever saw in Scotland, and has

rais'd the meal to from 9 to 10d the peck, which can last no longer than the mills are stop'd by the frost; but att anyrate, I wish rather that it were sold by you than me. I ever am,

dr Rot,

yours,

Edr., Janry 17th, 1740. P. GRANT.

No. LVIII.

Dr Rot,

It's but a few hours since I came here from Edr, where I receiv'd yours of the 5th only this forenoon, so that I have not time to write you a long answer, and ther's the less use for it, that I hope so soon to see you. I propose, God willing, to sett out from this Munday morning, the 24th, by Stirling; whether I shall reach Ruthven on Wednesday night, I know not, but I'll endeavour it, if I can without stressing my horses. The reason I'm so particular is that any tenents that are to remove, must be warn'd that week, the Sunday being last Sunday for warning, so that if you want to speak to me before, you may meet me by the way, att least att Castle Grant, because it will possibly be the end of the week before I gett home.

I have writt to the Major[1] by this post. I cou'd not refuse him the favour he asks, tho' you know ther are very few I wou'd have granted it to. I hope I shall by next post have your answer to my last whether I may expect any money in the north, and how much, which will regulate what I shall take with me from the Bank. I wish Nelly[2] may be perswaded to be my housekeeper. I can assure her that neither the Capt.[3] nor I have very delicate palates. I am, dr Rot,

yours,

Shank, March 12th, 1740. P. GRANT.

[1]Presumably Major George Grant of Culbin.

[2]Lord Elchies' sister.

[3]Perhaps Captain Dickson. *Vide* Nos. XL and LXVI.

No. LIX.

Dear Rot,

Never anything surpris'd or griev'd me more than yours of the 15th. Your bill to Delrachnie's order I pay'd and plac'd to your acct as directed, and now it wou'd seem by your letter, that the use of it was to pay some bill of John's[1] for £60 st, drawen on either Delrachny or you, payll to somebody here, tho' you have not directly told me that such a bill was drawn, nor upon whom, nor to whom payll. I assure you ye might have told the whole when you advis'd me of your draught, for I wou'd not have suffer'd your bill to be protested, and dilligence go against you for it, for whatever end it was drawen, so long as I cou'd command as much money as to pay it, tho' whether I shall take any concern in John's bill, if he has drawen one, is more than I'm yet quite determin'd about.[2]

I am so fatigued with writing him a very long letter, that I must make yours the shorter. Before I sent him abroad, I explain'd to him the great lines of my whole affairs, and satisfied him that 1200 gilders a year was the utmost my circumstances cou'd allow, and if that wou'd not do, he must stay att home. He was quite satisfy'd; but I was still afraid till he had made the experiment, and was therefor always enquiring how his allowance serv'd him, which I remitted so punctually ev'ry quarter that I'm sure it has never yet been one day too late. Subjoin'd you have a note of his answers to that article, whereof the last is the 18th March last, when he had been half a year there; and I think they will satisfie

[1] John Grant, Lord Elchies' eldest son, was inscribed as a student in the *Album Academicum* of Leyden University on 14th October, 1741, his age being 22, and continued there until 1745, when he was inscribed for the last time on 23rd February. He did not take his degrees; and the Archivarius of the University remarks that "on the same day and for the same period, 'Robertus Kinloch, Scotus, 24, T(heol.)' is inscribed, also not taking degrees"; and that "among Joannes Grant's professors the most notable was J. J. Vitriarius, jurist of merit; son of the former"—(*i.e.*, the famous jurist, P. R. Vitriarius).

[2] *Vide* App. No. LVIII.

you that I had no reason to suspect his allowance wou'd not serve. Nay further, I'm satisfied that what he wrote 18th March was true, and that till then (when the dearest season in all respects was over) he has keept within his allowance, and that this £60 and all I remitted him has been spent between that and his writing to you, so that the £60 has certainly been losst att play, or he has fallen into some other odd scrape. You have writt me but very litle of the story. I dare say Delrachny knew it when here, if he accepted any bill then and conceal'd it from me; or if he did not, your paying such a bill was, I dare say, well meant, but I'm afraid it was a litle rash and ill judg'd in you both, without enquiring further or consulting me. I wish he may be able to give me a satisfying answer. If not, I'm determin'd he shall come home immediately, and if he will not come, any of his friends that pleases may, for my share, pay all his bills, and indeed all his expense. The money he carried away with him, and what I have remitted him, is just £153: 3: 9 st. Indeed, of that sum I remitted f300 the 9th of Septr, att £27: 10 st, which was probably after his letters to Delrachnie and you, and was for the quarter commencing the beginning of this month, but deducing that, ther remains £123: 13: 9 st, which is as much as, you see, Mr. Livingston, son to Sr James Livingston[1] (a gentleman of more than double my estate) who had been there att least a year before him, thought any Leyden student shou'd spend; but I'm really tired and must stop short.

I'm extremely sorry for Balnadaloch's misfortune; pray make my compliments to him and his lady, and write me how he recovers. I am, in heast,

dr Rot,
yours,
P. Grant.

Edr, Octr 27, 1742.

[1]Probably Sir James Livingston of Glentirran—served heir of Prov. Gen. to his cousin, Isobel, daughter of Michael Livingston of Bantaskin—5th February, 1757, "Services of Heirs."

His Answers.

13 Octr, 1741.—He is happy in the best sett of students that had been there for many years, exceeding sober, resolv'd to mind their business and *by no means expensive.*

P.S.—Mr. Livingston informs me that one can live here as well as a Leyden student ought to do for £120 a year, so that I am, as indeed I was before I left Scotland, extremely satisfied with my allowance.

21 Octr.—That they had the smallest, the soberest, and the busiest sett of students has been knowen here of a great while.

9 Jary, 1741/2.—I receiv'd yours of 8 Decr the 5th of this month, and am infinitely oblig'd to you for your exactness, for to tell the truth I was extremely poor which was occasion'd by my being oblig'd to lay in turff and wine for the whole winter immediately after I came here. However I have and shall always take care of running myself in debt being sufficiently, I imagine, warned already of the danger of running accounts, which I shall always as much as possible evite.

18 March.—As to my finances, I own I find it difficulter to live here on my allowance than I was att first inform'd, or imagin'd, and it takes me no small pains to make all things answer, as the comonest necessaries of life are here extremely dear, which however, with some trouble, I expect to do, providing, as I'm sure they will, my bills come regularly.

And this is the last letter he has writt me on that subject.

No. LX.

Dear Rot,

Your letter of the 10th I receiv'd last week, but neither had time, nor was it absolutely necessary to answer it, if it was not to tell you that Capt. Campbell[1] was gone to fflanders. I have

[1]Probably Captain (afterwards Major) Colin Campbell, yr., of Monzie; appointed Captain in the Highland Regiment, October, 1739; afterwards Aide-de-Camp to General Clayton, and fell with him at Dettingen. "Scots. Mag.," July, 1743.

rather less time now, than I had then, but it is necessary to write you a few lines to acquaint you that Ensign McViccar,[1] who does business for Capt. Campbell in his absence, tho' he has no letter from Major Grant, has given me the £150 st you bid me draw for, and taken my draught upon you for the money, payll ten days after this date to Major Grant att his house of Cubin. Ther was a necessity for doing the thing this night, or not att all, because our Christmas vacation begins to morrow and I go to the countrey the moment our Court rises.

I have had no letters from John, and yet have had the good nature on the precise stated quarterly day, to make him a new remittance, and that too of 400 gilders, instead of 300 I was wont to remitt; which at the usuali rate of students drawing for their money, is, as to him, after the rate of his own demand £160 st: p. annm.

It's late, and I'm tired, and must conclude with my best wishes to all friends. I am, in heast,

dear Rot,

yours,

Edr., 21st Decr, 1742. P. GRANT.

No. LXI.

Dear Rot,

This day se-night I wrote to you in answer to your letter by the post, and next morning, Duncan Grant brot me yours of 28 Decr with the £100 st you sent by him to be remitted to John. He brot me also a letter from Delrachny bidding me draw upon him to you for £100 st to be apply'd in the same way and which he wou'd answer very soon, and if it is inconvenient for me to draw that he wou'd remitt the money before Candlemass. And therefor as I told you ther was some money of a friend of mine that I

[1]Doubtless John McVicar, appointed Ensign in the Highland Regiment, 12th August, 1741.

cou'd make free with for some short time, I remitted to Holland all the bills I cou'd gett to purchass by last post, and am by Saturday's post to remitt as much as with the former remittances makes £300 st, and that with the £200 st that Mr. Grant is to remitt will not only pay all John's debts but be, I think, a very sufficient allowance for bringing him to Scotland by the way of London, for it is £80 st more than John's own demand. The bills were indors'd to me, and by me reindors'd to Mr. Schwartz value in acct, to whom I wrote to take John's obligation to give you a bond in the Scots form for £100 st with int from 28th Decr, and to Delrachny for the like sum, and to file ane account with John that wee may see how it is apply'd, and what ballance remains to carry him home.

I spoke to John Grant about Mr. Duff's money that he was to give me on a bill on you, but he has not himself yet gott it. Mr. Wm. Grant advances the money, and declines doing it till the conveyances in his favours are executed. But in the meantime, do you take Delrachny's £100 which he will give you without my drawing any bill on him, and you are better att finding bills to remitt me than he is, or, if I can find ane opportunity I can draw upon you. All I shall say is, that John is exceedingly obliged to both of you, and I wish he may be soon able to repay you.

It's impossible that I can att present answer the rest of your letter, but I shall as soon as I gett time. Only as to Delnabo,—did you consider that matter aright? I'm sure that instead of bidding, you wou'd forbid me to meddle in any thing of that kind, and if I can't convince you that I ought not, I shall be determin'd by you, for I'm sure its not because I don't wish well to ev'ry body concern'd that I decline to accept of that office. Neither the D of Gordon[1] nor E Abdn[2] are yet come to town: when they come, I shall speak to both anent Dell. The P———

[1]Cosmo George, 3rd Duke of Gordon, married Katherine, daughter of William, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen; died 5th August, 1752.

[2]William, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen, died 30th March, 1749.

knew more of the matter than I did. In case I gett not time to write Dell, you may communicate this to him. I ever am, dr Rot,

yours,

Edr., Janry 12th, 1744. P. GRANT.

Endorsed in R. G.'s writing:—Lo/ Elches' letter of the 12th Jary, owning the recept of £100 sterling yt I sent him to be lent to his sone John on his own bond, which his Lo/ is bound to get me, or to comptt to me for the money. 1744.[1]

No. LXII.

Dear Rot,

Your usuall exactness in answering letters, especially of business, and my having no letter from you since that of the 18th, tho' I wrote to you 29 Febry, and the 14th inst, makes me afraid that you're indispos'd, which is, indeed, the chief reason of my writing by this post, and to know whether these letters came safe to hand. In the first, I drew bill on Delrachny to you for the £100 st. that I remitted John att his desire, and in the other, I sent you John's two obligations to Delrachny and you for the £100 st each of you advanced him, and begged you wou'd write me how soon it came to hand. I hope Dellrachnie's £100 has answer'd before now, and pray remitt me by the first opportunity, or, if I shou'd find ane occasion of drawing for it, lett me know how soon I may do it.

I understand by a letter I had last post from Sr James,[2] that John is come to London, so I suppose he'll be soon in this countrey. I understand that Mr. Grant is expected Saturday next. I'm afraid John has not overtaken him att London, but I am not certain, for I have no letter from either of them. My complimts to Mrs. Grant, and to the family att Balnadaloch. I am, dr Rot, yours,

P. GRANT.

Shank, March 28th, 1744.

[1] A reproduction of the seal on this letter appears in this volume.

[2] Sir James Grant of Grant.

Fac-simile of Lord Elchies' Seal, with Enlargement.

No. LXIII.

Dear Rot,

There is no writing to you about business but by sea, and therefor have not till now attempted to answer yours of Decr 5th, which I gott the 22d of that month, and was the only one I got from you for more than three months, wherein you write me that John Gordon[1] in ffochabers and Mr. James Dumbar of Kincorth had promis'd to direct their doers how to transact some affairs with me for you. I wrote to you the 7th and 17 Decr, both by sea to Inverness, under Dellrachnie's cover (and I hope they are come to hand) advising that on Decr 7th Thomas Tulloch had, by order of Rot Innes mercht in Elgin, given me £200 st upon my first and second bills on you payll to said Rot Innes att 14 days sight, and that Wm ffraser, writer,[2] had on account of John Gordon, factor to the Duke of Gordon, given me £227: 10 st, on my giving him first and 2d orders to you to deliver up John Gordon's bill for the like sum. I suppose Mr. Innes's money is the same that you mean by Kinkorth's transacting some affairs with me, otherwise I have not heard of him. John Grant gave the copy of your accounts, which I assure you I have yet had no time to peruse. Tell my apostle I carefully preserve his letter, and carry it in my letter case, for it surprised me a good deal very soon after I gott it, but I don't find any advice given in it, or I would likewise obey it.

Wee expect ev'ry moment to hear of a battle near Stirling, where the rebells are; and wee have att Linlithgow or ffakirk (I'm not sure which, for I have not been abroad today) 12 fine battalions of foot, one regiment of dragoons, (Cobham's) and the remains of the two regiments of dragoons that were att the battle of Preston, with the Glasgow Regimt, and Paisley Volunteers, who are 800

[1]John Gordon of Cluny, Factor to the Duke of Gordon.

[2]Probably William Fraser, W.S., cousin of Simon, Lord Lovat. *Vide* Burton's "Life of Lord Lovat," pp. 245, 253, 255.

very good men, and a small train of 10 piece of cannon all commanded by very good officers, Lieut. Grll Hawley, Major Grll Husk, Br. Cholmondly and Mordaunt; and Grll Campbell with the van of the Argyllshire men were att Kilsyth Wednesday night; and the rebells, by our accounts, cannot be above 8,000 men. Wee expect here, this night, two more batalions of foot from England (the fuzileers and Semple's) together with a large and fine train of artillery that Marshall Wade had, and wee are hourly looking for 4,800 Hessian foot. I hope our Gralls, if they can help it, won't engage till the whole is join'd; but I fancy, in any event, they will not suffer the Castle of Stirling to be taken, which the rebells are endeavouring, but I don't hear that they have yet gott any one battery erected. I pray God to send a happy end to all these calamities; this countrey is sore distress'd. The rebells comitt horrid ravages wherever they come, and are much more cruell, as well as covetous, than when they march'd southward. Tell my daur[1] wee are all, I thank God, very well, and furnish her any money she may want. Compliments to all friends. I am, dr Rot,

yours,

Edr, Janry 17th, 1746. P. Grant.

Many good new years to you.

No. LXIV.

[From "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. II, 214-5.]

Edinburgh, January 18th, 1746.

My dear Sir,—Before this come to hand, I doubt not you'll have had the news of a battle that was fought yesterday att Faakirk, and in the channell by which it must come to you, I daresay it will be magnified to a great and compleat victory. I write this

[1]Probably Miss Peggie Grant. *Vide* No. LXV and App. No. XCVI.

therefor att our friend the Justice-Clerk's[1] desire, by whom this express is sent, chiefly to inform our friends of the true fact, which is, that ther was indeed a sort of a battle, or rather a skirmish, att three acloak afternoon, in which, tho' wee were undoubtedly superior in strength and number, yet wee lost, as wee reckon, about 300 men, with 6 or 7 piece of cannon, and I'm afraid our tents. The best account I have heard of this odd accident is, that the Highlanders had sent out some parties that appear'd about the tops of the hills above Faakirk, and the Generall sent up the dragoons to beat them back and disperse them. Then he was advis'd by his scouts that the body of the Highland army were marching the same way, upon which he order'd our foot to be drawn up and march against them. The Highlanders by this means gott the top of a pretty steep hill before us, and were favour'd by a storm of wind and rain in our teeth. They first attack'd our dragoons upon the left, who stood their fire, but were instantly in a cloud of smoke, and reel'd. They attack'd the left of our foot in the same way, who had no other mark to shoot att but the cloud of smoke of the rebells' fire, which made them also give way. Our right stood their ground, and made the left of the rebells run, and Generall Husk rallied again the left of our foot and quite beat of the rebells. Wee had no use of our cannon, which were att a distance from us; and the drivers, seeing our dragoons and the left of our foot reel, cutt the traces and run away with the horses. Wee had no provisions at Faakirk, and night coming on, which made us retire yesternight to Linlithgow, but cou'd carry only three of our canon with us; and as this rainy weather must have hurt the men's arms and ammunition, the whole army comes here this night, where there are two batalions more to join them, Lord Semple's and the fuzieleers; and I'm told that how soon the men are refreshed we march back to them again. Wee hear the rebells retired to Stirling, and imagine they must have lost more men than wee.

[1]Andrew Fletcher, Lord Milton.

La. G.[1] wrote you yesterday the sentiments of your friends here with respect to your own future conduct, to which I must referr you, tho' possibly this may come first to hand. My best wishes attend you and yours, my dear Sir. Adieu.

Wee have lost very few officers. I heard Sir Robert Monro and Colonel Biggar talk'd of, but not with any certainty.

To Ludovick Grant of Grant, Esquire.

[Indorsed]:—L. El———s to Mr. Grant, 18th January, 1746, but did not arive till 2d February.

No. LXV.

Dear Rot,

As I had no letter from you since that of 22d Janry till yesterday that I got yours of the 3d inst, you may believe I was not a litle anxious to hear from you, espelly after what I had heard of the rebells' barbarities att my house; and, had ther been no other reason than to know the certainty of that, I wou'd certainly have written to you long before now, as I knew that the communication with our army was open, but then I knew not whether it was open from the army to you; and I doubted not you wou'd take the first safe opportunity of writing to me; and even now I know not whether, nor when, this will come to hand, which I am advis'd to direct to Elgin.

That is the reason that I did not write you that the North Circuite was superceded for this year; and it wou'd truly have been impossible to have made it further than to Abdn. I shall be always glad to see you here, but if it is your anxiety about your accounts that presses you, you may be very easy, for I'm sure they are all right, tho' I have never yet looked att them. *A propos* of this, Peggie[2] wrote her mother last week, that I had said or writt something or other blaming your conduct, and that you

[1]Lachlan Grant of Gartinbeg, writer in Edinburgh, and agent there for the Lairds of Grant.

[2]Lord Elchies' daughter, Margaret, who, in these Letters, is liable to be confused with his niece of the same name, daughter of Alexander Grant of Dalrachnie. *Vide* No. LXIX.

wonder'd that I had blamed you to another, and not writt to yourself. But I shall wonder much more, if you, who have knowen me so long, could allow yourself to believe such a notorious lye, and it was impossible that I cou'd have blam'd your conduct, for I give you my word, that since your letter in Janry, I never heard nor knew one bitt of it till I gott your letter yesterday; nor knew not on tittle about my estate, further than getting repeated verball accounts that the rebells had left nothing but the bare walls, but had destroyed ev'rything they could not carry with them; and your letter makes me hope that matters, tho' bad enough, are not quite so bad as I had heard. However, I wish you wou'd send me a list, and likewise ane estimate of the dammages they have done me, and also what they have done to the tennents. They are now like to pay pretty well for the mischief they have done the countrey, tho' they never can repair the 20th part. But I rather they had even burnt my house than that they had the least cause to mistake me for their friend. Your friend John[1] was exceeding bad of a rheumatism, but is so well recover'd, that he has been att Air and Glasgow as Advt Dept., and goes on Munday to Stirling. I'm exceeding glad of our friend Jamie's[2] good luck and no less pleas'd that Balnadalloch[3] is selling out. Either you or he are very welcome to any money I have in your hands. I never had more plenty of ready cash than, I thank God, I have had wt your help during all this rebellion. My compliments to the Lady Balnadalloch and Mistris Grant. I ever am, dr Rot,

yours,

Edr, May 13th, 1746. P. GRANT.

Endorsed:—To Robert Grant of Tammore to the care of Baillie Robert Duff att Elgin.

[1]John Grant, Lord Elchies' eldest son. In a "List of the Faculty of Advocates" in 1746, in the British Museum, the following appears against his name:—"Attends the Bar; has come in to some share in business; is eldest son to Lord Elchies, one of the judges—and well affected to the Government."

[2]Afterwards General James Grant of Ballindalloch, who probably received promotion at this time; he was Aide-de-Camp to General St. Clair, Colonel of the Royal Scots, on his mission to Vienna in 1747.

[3]Captain Alexander Grant.

No. LXVI.

Dear Robert,

I wrote to you the 13th by the Elgin post, to the care of Baillie Robert Duff, in answer to yours of the 3d, and I have now nothing materiall to add, only I cannot omitt this opportunity of writing to you. I long much to have the account you promis'd to make up of the dammages that the rebells have done me, and what scituation both I and the poor tennents are in: I lay my account with it that it is very bad; however, I'm glad to hear that the ground is sowen. John is return'd from Stirling. He does not complain of any pains, but he is still exceeding weak and low spirited. My sincere compliments to La/ Balnadaloch and Mrs. Grant. By a letter that I had yesterday from Capt. Dickson from Dunkeld, I imagine that Peggie[1] is return'd to Inverlaidnen. I carry the two boys[2] into town to school the next week, or the week after. Their governor fell so very ill of consumption, that he was forc'd to leave them, and to be carried in a chair to his mother's house, I'm really afraid—to die. I ever am, dr Rot, yours,

P. Grant.

Edr, May 24th (1746).

No. LXVII.

Edr., July 1st, 1746.

Dear Robert,

I have very litle more time than barely to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 9th covering the accts of damages done me by the rebells, and your other letter of 24th, both last month, which last I gott only yesternight. I am glad that att Elchies matters are no worse than they seem to be by these accts, for I

[1]Lord Elchies' daughter. *Vide* App. No. XCVI.

[2]David and Andrew.

was told that nothing was left, and that they had either carry'd away or destroy'd ev'ry thing. I'm not however very certain by these accts what is taken, and what left: For example, the curtains of 3 beds are mentioned, but it's not told what beds; and what increases the doubt, is the value annexd—£40—Now, if the blue damask bed be one, which I suspect it is, the value is very moderate, and yet some other articles, whereof I know the values, seem not to be under-valued; therefor I wish John Proctor[1] wou'd make ane inventary of the things that remain'd, distinguishing the severall rooms. I believe John[2] goes north sometime this week; he cannot think of waiting longer for Rothie,[3] &c. But as he goes only for exercise, and for recovery of his health and strength, I doubt if he'll go further down than the parish of Glencharnick.[4] But, as I doubt not you'll see him one way or other, I'll send with him the key of my cabinet, because it can hardly be mended without it. I'll be very glad to see you here whenever you have time, and our accounts will, I fancy, be soon clear'd; but assure yourself, whether you be old or young, so long as wee both live, while I am Laird, you *Must* be my

[1]John Proctor was at this time a Writer and Notary, residing at Clayfurr, on the Easter Elchies estate. A stone in Macallan Churchyard, probably to the memory of his parents, bears the following:—"Under this stone is laid til the coming of Christ the dust of an honest man called John Proctor sometime indweller in Clayfurs at Easter Elkies. He died the . . . and Elspet Grant his first spouse, who died the 29 of July, 1709, and . . ." During the period 1739-57, John, the writer, acted as Clerk to the Courts of the lands of Ballindalloch at an annual fee of 10s stg. By July, 1750, he had removed to Conrack, on Lord Elchies' Rothes estate; in April, 1757, he was appointed Sheriff-Substitute of Elgin, and died in June, 1759. He married Jean, daughter of Gordon of Leitcheston. In Jervise's "Epitaphs" (II, 79), there is the following note:—"Their only son, Patrick Proctor of Halkerton, near Forfar, and referred to in Sir Walter Scott's 'Demonology,' as the seneschal of Glamis Castle was widely known. He and his son William were for about 90 years factors for the Earl of Strathmore, and the eldest son, John, was some time farmer of East Calcots, near Elgin. One of Sheriff Proctor's daurs., Isobel, married John Nicoll, corn merchant, Lossiemouth. Their son was Principal Nicoll of St. Andrews, who was the leader of the Church of Scotland, along with Dr. John Inglis, father of the present Lord Justice Clerk, for the ten years following the death of Principal Hill in 1820." *Vide* App. Nos. LXIV, CXXIV, CXXV and CXXXVIII.

[2]Lord Elchies' eldest son.

[3]James Grant of Rothiemurchus.

[4]*I.e.*, Duthil.

operator, and I'll never once think of another.[1] Most sincere compliments to the family of Balnadaloch, and your own. I am,

dear Robert,

yours,

P. GRANT.

No. LXVIII.

Shank, 12 August, 1746.

Dear Robert,

Last week I receiv'd yours of the first, with the inventary of the house of Elchies, and I'm glad that the rebells have left so much. Since the wood in Aikenway is full growen, you're certainly right in selling it, which is the way to preserve it. I'm likewise altogether of your opinion where lands are as much improv'd as can be expected, and pay ane equall rent, not to raise it higher, but rather take grassums: And that I take to be the case of Dundurcus,[2] and therefor you might have bargain'd with your tenent there, without waiting any answer from me. But I'm so litle acquaint with my own affairs, that I'm not sure if I know what you call the Braehead in Elchies, or who you call All: Proctor, or Peter Dean. I think I remember that old Allexr Proctor,[3] John's brother, liv'd in the land that my father improv'd that was called the Newlands; and old Peter Dean, the weaver, liv'd in Hillhall, but, if I remember right, att a good distance from the Newlands; but that cannot be the Peter Dean that you write pays now 10£, and next 7 years pays £15; but whatever be in that, you are a much better judge how the land should be sett, and I leave it altogether to you to do as you think proper. Only, if it is these old men, I would not wish either of them to be turn'd quite out of the ground, tho' ther is no great matter in your choping and changing their possessions as you

[1] *Vide* App. No. XCVI.

[2] Another of "the four fairest farms on the banks of the Spey."

[3] *Vide* No. LXXV.

find most for my interest; and I would not take a higher rent than the farm can bear; and it can be no just motive that make[s] any tenent offer it.

Mr. Paul[1] wrote me about his house, whereof your description made us all laugh very heartily. I suppose he will have showen you my answer disapproving—indeed he's spoiling the looks of it—but since he had gone so farr agreeing to continue it provided you was satisfied, were it not for saving postage, I wou'd have sent you his letter, which is half a sheet of paper, writt compleatly on all sides, upon no other subject than his two windows. I wish the litle meal you have were sold; wee have a fine appearance of a cropt and the prices are already falling. Balnadaloch[2] is now with me, and is in exceeding good health, tho' his wound, which I saw, is not yet quite closed; but it gives him no more trouble than ane issue would do. My most humble service to his lady, and to Mrs. Grant. I am, dear Rot, yours,

P. Grant.

Endorsed:—To Robert Grant of Tammore at his house near Balnadalloch to the care of Baillie Duff in Elgin.

No. LXIX.

Edr., Janry 27th, 1747.

Dear Robert,

About half ane hour ago I had the pleasure of yours of the 19th, and least I should not easily find so much spare time afterwards, and that I may not unnecessarly detain the bearer (whom I have not yet seen) I take this first opportunity of answering it. I thank God I am as well as could be expected, yea, all things

[1]The Rev. John Paul, Minister of Rothes (son of William Paul, Merchant and Bailie of Elgin), ordained 10th November, 1720; died 16th March, 1747. Shaw's "Moray," Vol. III, 370. *Vide* App. No. LXV.

[2]Captain Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch and his brother, Captain James Grant, were both serving on the continent in 1745, when the former was severely wounded.

considered, I wonder att myself that I have been able to stand it. However, I have for some time been pretty much out of order. Ever since Christmas I have had very sore eyes, and for a fortnight I had a sort of cholick and looseness. However, it has pleased God that I have gott the better of both. I wrote you that Davie,[1] after his mother's death,[2] was seiz'd with a fever, and after he was recover'd, he had a relapse, but I thank God he is recover'd of it likewise. And ever since Saturday, Mary[3] and Peggie (Dell's daughter)[4] have been, and still are, bedfast of fevers, but are thought to be rather better to day. So you see my family has been in pretty great distress since you was here. Lord help us!

I am glad by the account you sent me to find that matters are not worse, and what is owing will, I hope, in time, be pay'd. What the Parlt will do, or if they'll do any thing, with the Baron Courts, I cannot forsee; but in the meantime these Courts must go on, and administer justice in the usuall manner. And as to the tenents destroying the woods, if you cannot prevent it in your way, I'm sure no body could without hurting me. As to the oaks in the Craig of Elchies, you are to be sure the best judge of the offer made you. As farr as I can judge, they will grow the worse the longer they stand. As to Balnageith's[5] letter touching the meal taken by the rebels from the tennents, that att your desire they delay'd paying into the girnell, I think both you and I are bound to allow it—you, that your promise may be performd, and I, to repair a loss they sustain'd plainly on my account, and att your desire to save me. What was eat in their houses other than

[1]David Grant, son of Lord Elchies.

[2]Mrs. Grant died at Edinburgh on 8th December, 1746. *Vide* App. No. XCVI.

[3]A daughter of Lord Elchies, although not mentioned in the Easter Elchies pedigree in "The Chiefs of Grant."

[4]Lord Elchies' niece, Margaret, daughter of Alexander Grant of Dalrachnie, who, in 1771, is called his eldest lawful daughter now in life. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 527.

[5]William Leslie of Balnageith, near Forres, at this time resident at Burncrooks. "Rothes Parish Register."

those that you prevented from bringing it to the girnel, is in a very different case. To be sure, I am not bound to allow any of it, and yet I'm afraid that, for my own sake, I must give some allowance to some of them, that I may not break them; for example, the miller you mention at Dandaleith, seems to be in a different case from the rest. In a word, a discretion must be us'd in that matter, and I leave it wholly to you: it is ridicculous, in such a case, to think the master is bound to repair his tenents' losses. It is meer good will and compassion; therefor you'll do as if they were your own tennents, only ascertain what allowances you give.

It is plain Robert McMillan must be turn'd out of his land, but I wish you could find some employment for him, as well as his son, to bring him about the kitchin. Can he not herd, or drive a plow?

I shall speak to Sandie Carolina[1] about Lisie Sim,[2] and likewise to Lachlan,[3] who has some correspondence in Jamaica, and if I'm advis'd to it, will get some body to write to Mr. Grant (that is Dr. Grant)[4] att London. I caus'd my son write to Mr. Cheap, and he told me that his answer was, that he cannot settle the quantity till Ld Loudoun[5] come up. It is more than probable that after Candlemas I shall accept of your kind offer, and draw upon you for some money, but I cannot yet say anything certain about it.

[1]Sandie Grant, who probably had for a time resided in Carolina.

[2]Lord Elchies' niece (*vide* No. LXXIV), and daughter of John Sime, brother of Rev. Walter Sime, at this time Minister of the parish of Mortlach.

[3]Lachlan Grant, writer in Edinburgh.

[4]Probably Dr. William Grant, brother of Patrick Grant, younger, of Rothiemurchus, and grandfather of Elizabeth Grant, whose interesting autobiography, under the title of "Memoirs of a Highland Lady," was published in 1898.

[5]John, 4th Earl of Loudoun. In 1745 he raised a regiment of Highlanders for the service of the Government, of which he was appointed Colonel. He acted as Adjutant-General under Sir John Cope, and in February, 1746, formed the design of surprising Prince Charles at Moy Hall, which ended in the celebrated "Rout of Moy."

This was begun before my papers, but now they are over, and ther is nothing else that occurrs to me. If ther occurr anything afterwards, you shall have it in a postscrip. My best wishes attend Mrs. Grant. Great reason have you to take good care of her. Should it ever be your misfortune to loose her, great would you find the affliction. I ever am,

dear Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

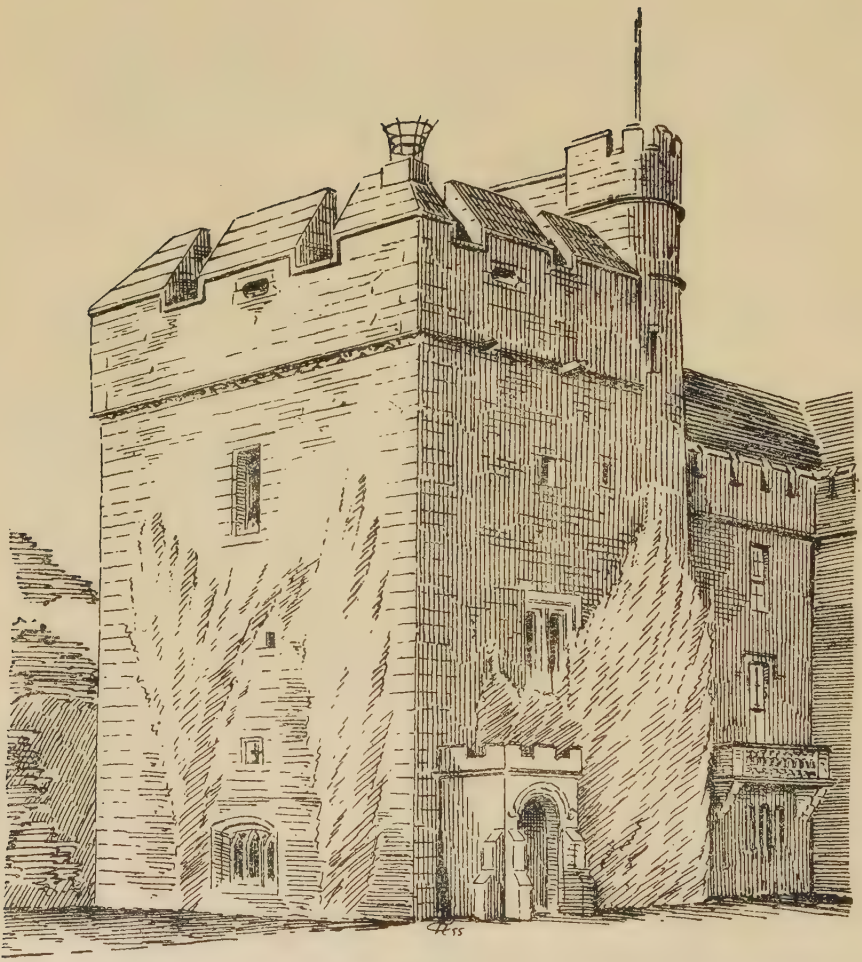
I need not tell you of poor Sr James Grant's[1] death; it is surely no news to you.

P.S.—Feb. 6th, 1747. I did not see John Rogers[2] till this minute. He says he thinks of going away Munday morning, that he goes first out to Dalkeith, but inclines not to come back to this town. I receiv'd from Willie[3] yours of the 30th ulto., and I can give you no other directions about the tack of Strainbuckie than to leave it to you to do whatever you think best. I know you will not willingly part with a substantiall tennent, and I think you seem to be of opinion rather to take grassums than augment the rent, except on new improv'd lands, and I believe you are quite in the right. Sandie Carolina desire[s] to know in what part of Jamaica John Sim stay'd. My son says that somebody from London wrote about him, and sent a copy of his will. If that is so, it were proper I knew the person, and where to be found, and saw a copy of the will. Cheap can say nothing till Ld Loudoun comes, and I have not yett got any opportunity of drawing on you. My niece Peggie seems to be out of danger, but poor Mary seems to be dying. I own I have not had the courage to see her since Sunday last, not only for my own sake, but likewise, and chiefly, for hers, least my concern, which I could not conceal,

[1]Sir James Grant of Grant died on 16th January, 1747.

[2]Grieve at Easter Elchies. *Vide* No. LXXIX.

[3]Probably Tammore's son.



Carberry Tower, where Lord Elchies lived from 1747-1752.

From drawing kindly loaned by Mr. Thomas Ross, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., Edinburgh.

might hurt her, and make her worse. It is therefor no wonder that my spirits are not very high. Since the date of my letter, I have had ane exceeding bad cold, attended with a very severe cough, deafness, &c. But I am now old, and it is time to faill.

Endorsed in R. G.'s writing:—Lord Elches' letter of the 6th Feb. annent the giving allowance to sundry of his tennents of the meall taken from them by the rebells, and annent the setling with Geo. Davidson for a tack of Strainbuckie, and the sale of the wood of Craigelachy. 1747.

No. LXX.

Carberry,[1] Aug. 31st, 1747.

Dr Rot,

As you may have occasion to produce my inclosed letter in the Pby, I did not think proper to mention in it the inclos'd letter from Mr. Grant of the 13th anent Lisie Sim's money. I'm afraid the priest has wanted to be full handed, and to play tricks, but I hope Mr. Grant will stop it. You see he could not send me any copy of the will; pray therefor talk with Mr. Sim[2] and gett ane

[1]Within a mile from the principal scene of action at the Battle of Pinkie, which, according to Patten, was in the "fallow feldes above Undreske," is situated the manor of Carberry. The house of Carberry is ancient, comparatively speaking, and has all the marks of a baronial mansion, but its date is not ascertained. That it existed long before the battle may be argued, from the under storey being strongly arched, and lined with oak pannelling. The division now used as a kitchen has all the appearance of a keep for the lodgment of prisoners. That it was a considerable mansion-house in the 16th century is certain; and was the property of Mr. Hugh Rigg, an Advocate, and distinguished public character at the time, who is mentioned in "Knox's History," Book First (A.D., 1534), as evidencing the mental agonies of Cardinal Beaton, after that prelate had condemned many of the Reformers to the flames; and also by Pitscottie, as being one of the four to whom the Governor of Scotland communicated the overtures of the Duke of Somerset, immediately previous to the Battle of Pinkie. "New Stat. Acc. Scot.," Parish of Inveresk.

[2]Rev. Walter Sime, M.A., Minister of Mortlach, formerly of Glass; ordained 23rd September, 1714, died 16th January, 1763. *Vide* App. Nos. CVII, CVIII and CXV.

explanation of his letter, and a copy of the will if he has one, and ask the meaning of concealing the correspondence from not only the mother's friends, but even the girl herself.

As to what you wanted to know of the late law about tenents' services, all I can say is, hencefurth they will be lieable in none but such as shall be specified, and both the kind and number expresst in writing. So that for hereafter ther must be tacks in writing for ev'ry tenent, and you must specify all th— ——vices, how many long carriages and how many ———————— any with horses, and how many foot carriages, yea————————ing of their farms, and how many days casting————————r winning peats, shearing and leading corn, mending streams, &c: &c: &c:; and these must be as full as if I were keeping family att Elchies, since I myself can't know how soon that may happen. It's true as to standing tacks now current, the ordinary clause of services us'd and wont may, I believe, be good enough but when they expire, the tenent is free of services till ther be a new tack in write, tho' he may be liable for his other rent by tacite relocation. I fancy it will not be easy for you to settle a proper clause for all the servces payll to Balnadaloch and me, but ther is no help:, so stands the law. I ever am,

dear Rot,
your own,
P. Grant.

Return me Mr. Grant's letter.

No. LXXI.

Carberry, Aug. 31st, 1747.

Dear Rot,

I sent you on the 17th, E. Rothes'[1] presentation to Mr.

[1]John, ninth Earl of Rothes, K.T.

Gray,[1] but had then omitted to gett his commission to you to prosecute it. I send you inclosed a letter from his Lordship to you to prosecute it, and as I very heartily concurr with it, make my compliments to the Modr and members of the Presbitry, and begg they would invite him north, that the parish may hear him preach, which to be sure is necessary before they proceed to moderate a call to him. Att the same time, as he cannot, it seems, gett the extract of his licence before the first presbitry day in Dalkeith—the first Tuesday of October—I wish they would so order matters as that he could thereafter have time to go north, and attend the Presbitry of Aberlour, and then appoint him to preach att Rothes. He does not, however, propose that the settlement proceed sooner than next spring, and would therefor return hither in winter; but in the meantime the moderation may go on. I am, dear Robert,

yours,
P. GRANT.

Endorsed in R. G.'s writing:—Lord Elches' letter of the 31st August, concurring with the presentation annent the setling the Kirk of Rothes. 1747.

No. LXXII.

Edr., 27th Janry., 1748.

Dear Rot,

I shall soon send you by a private hand my act and commission for taking the proof of the rebells riffling my papers, which are too bulky to be sent by post, but I could not delay

[1]Rev. James Gray, Lord Elchies' Chaplain (*Vide* App. No. CI), afterwards Minister of Rothes (son of John Gray, Merchant, Lanark); ordained 14th April, 1748. Translated to Lanark, 1755. Shaw's "Moray," Vol. III, 370. Tammore wrote as follows to Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant on 13th September, 1747:—"I'me oblidg'd to goe down to Elches to morrow to atend a Presbtry at Dundurcus on Tuesday to give in a presentatione for a minister to Rothes, or had waited of you this day at Castle Grant."

acquainting you that Capt. fforbes[1] (who intends to go north to morrow or next day) dined with me this day, and, as you directed, gave me £100 st on my draught on you for it, payll to him or his order, att eight days sight; which is all I have to say, having writt to you last post. I am, dr Rot,

yours,
P. GRANT.

The above was wrote yesternight, and was by mistake first dated as this day, for my draught is of the 27th. I find you guess right enough as to your son's inclinations, and I fancy he thinks you have agreed to it. I have again writt to Robie and have bid him consult Mr. Grant, Hatton Garden, but have barr'd the two Indres.

No. LXXIII.

Edr., 30 Janry, 1748.

Dear Robert,

By last Thursday's post I wrote you that I had gott the £100 st from Capt fforbes, New, and that I had drawen on you for the money payll att eight days sight. Mr. Gray must att last venture north, and I wish he may be able to make out the journey, and I take that opportunity of sending you by him the Lords' act and commn with letters of dilligence for proving my loyalty and my house's being riffled, and papers destroy'd by the rebells,

[1]Captain John Forbes of Newe, who married Anne, eldest daughter of Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch; appointed Quarter-Master to the Highland Regiment, 25th March, 1740; Ensign, 24th June, 1743; referred to as Lieutenant Forbes of New in letter of 25th April, 1747; afterwards Government Factor on the forfeited estates of Lovat. In September, 1748, in a letter to Tammore, dated from Newe, he wrote:—"I beg you'll make my most humble compliments to Ld. Elchies and his son Mr. John: I intended to have waited upon them either at Elchies or Abdn if this had not happened." (He had received orders to join his regiment in Flanders.) Recommended as a J.P. for shire of Inverness by General Bland in letter of 13th June, 1754. ("S.P. Scot.," P. R. Office.) Died at Beaufort in 1775; buried in Lord Lovat's vault in the Church of Kirkhill.

because they were too bulky to be sent by the post; and that you may have time to find out the proper wittnesses which you will have, for your proof cannot begin till March. The matters to be proven you'll find in the act and commn parly the end of the 10th and beginning of the 11th page. The first point, my loyalty, you'll probably know litle of, if it is not by some of the letters I wrote about that time, whereof some were, I believe, intercepted. But as to the other, the whole of the proof must be with you; and pray make it as full as you can. I did not think it right to bring commrs from another countrey, when I had so many good neighbours and friends that I am perswaded will not decline the trouble. But unluckily, by some mistake, my very nearest neighbour, and whom I expressly nam'd, is omitted, and I did not know it till it was past remedy. But I'm exceeding sorry that by what I hear from all quarters of the one that is my nearest friend of the whole, I have reason to fear that I have made a very improper choice of him; that he is now so much attach'd to these people that he is very unfitt to take a proof that cou'd bring any reflection upon them. How he has come by that unhappy turn, I know not. It is extremely inconsistent with those principles of honour and gratitude that all his acquaintances believe he has in other matters. I assure you I'm heartily sorry both for his father's son and mother's son; and it affects me the more that it must hurt his friends, whatever it may do to himself. However, as to the matter in hand, you are not limited, you have other two to chuse either of them.

If Mr. Gray[1] will agree to stay att my house[2] untill he is settled, you'll give directions for accomodating him in it in ev'ry thing that he needs, as well as you can. And you may now and then ask him if he wants money, and if he does, give him any thing he wants on his note. But I fancy he won't take any, for I have sometimes offer'd him, but he would not take it. This day I spoke

[1] *Vide* Letter No. LXXI.

[2] *I.e.*, Easter Elchies.

to your son,[1] who, I find, wishes he had been bound apprentice att Abdn before he came here. He seems att present to incline to Glasgow, tho' he would not, I think, be sorry to go to Abdn. I told him of my writing to Robie[2] about Andrew,[3] and that I would acquaint him what answer I gett. I am, dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

No. LXXIV.

Edr., febry 25, 1748.

Dear Rot,

I should before now have answer'd yours of the 28th ulto. but delay'd it in hopes of being able att the same time to tell you that my niece[4] had gott dect. for the acknowledgd ballance in Mr. Sim's hands after deducing the debts he pretends to have pay'd for her father, which her lawiers were content to discount *pro loco et tempore* till the summer session, and that he shall depone and exhibite in the exhibition *ad deliberandum*, but so litle remain'd of the session, that I was disappointed. However, ther is in the meantime ane act and commn in the exhibition for his

[1]Tammore's son, William. He studied at Marischal College, Aberdeen; afterwards served with Dingwall & Fordyce, Merchants, there; was a Merchant there in 1754; subsequently a Merchant in London, in partnership with Captain Alexander Grant of the Sheuglie family, and Robert Grant, son of Tammore's sister, Margaret, wife of Alexander Grant, Hillockhead, Rothes. Was afterwards a Cotton Planter at Grenada, and, at the time of his death, in 1780 or 1781, was Collector of the Customs at St. Lucia, a position to which he was appointed by General James Grant of Ballindalloch, on the latter's conquest of that island in 1779.

[2]Lord Elchies' 2nd son.

[3]Possibly Lord Elchies' son of this name.

[4]Eliza Sime; *Vide* App. No. CVII. She seems to have married John Grant of Gellovie, the following account of the latter appearing in "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 504-5:—John Grant of Gellovie, who appears to have obtained the lands of Gellovie from his brother. He was a Commissioner of Supply for the County of Elgin and Forres in 1774. He married Elizabeth Lime(?) said to be a niece of Lord Elchies, who survived him, dying at Keith on 18th April, 1812, in the 87th year of her age. John Grant died at Easter Elchies on 28th June, 1780. He left issue.

deponing before you or Balnadaloch att Tammore to be reported the first of June. I confess I am pretty much convinc'd that he is not crer in a groat, but it was not thought proper to enter into that dispute till he exhibites all the papers that he has, and in the meantime, you shall have sent you copies of the documents of debt that he produces that you may take your own way of enquiring into the justice of them. His agent, Mr. Stewart, Tombea,[1] propos'd a submission, and I told him if he would state any point that his lawyers thought doubtfull and that they would tell me so, then I would advise my niece to submitt that point, but I know none, for so farr as he is a just creditor, I thought that without dispute he should be pay'd. Then he propos'd that whatever ballance should be found due the girl, should be limited not to dispose of it but in a contract of marriage, and I told him that had the father honestly provided the whole to her with a substitution and limitation, I should never have advis'd her to dispute his powers of doing so, tho' I should have doubted much of his powers, and I confess I took that to have been the meaning of Sim's first letter to you, when he wrote of my altering the will. But as the father was pleas'd to leave her nothing but att Mr. Sim's discretion, and even that discretion greatly limited in favours of Mr. Sim's own children (tho' I believe such a limitation was quite unnecessary), I thought her under no obligation, either in law or good conscience, to limit herself, and I would not advise her to limit herself, not even to the extent of a shilling. It is all her own, and lett her dispose of it as she pleases.

I'm convinced that Mr. Dalrymple's[2] bargain was with my father, and not with me, or if it was, I remember nothing of it. I have heard nothing more from Robie about Andrew, but Sr Lud. writes me that Robie has been very ill of a severe cold. I'm

[1]Apparently identical with Alexander Stuart of Edinglassie. *Vide* App. No. CXV. Tombea is in Glenlivet.

[2]The Rev. David Dalrymple, Minister of Dundurcas; he was a natural son of Lord Dromore; was Schoolmaster at Kettle, 23rd November, 1692; ordained 8th May, 1698; died 23rd February, 1747. Shaw's "Moray," Vol. III, 368.

told he's endeavouring to gett your nephew Robie[1] on board his own ship.

I need hardly tell you that I approve much of your paying Lettoch[2] now that his mother is dead, and I wish a litle were made to the money due Donald Tullochgorm's[3] heirs, that it might be pay'd also. As farr as I can learn from your son, his inclinations are for either Glasgow or Abdn, and he told me he wish'd that he had been bound at Abdn some years ago; and told me of one of his acquaintance that had made a considerable sum on a small stock, in a very few years, in the stocking trade. I ever am, dr Rot,

your own,

P. GRANT.

No. LXXV.

Edr, March 10th, 1748.

Dear Rot,

Your two letters of the 26th ulto and the 4th inst came to hand, together, only this forenoon. I am very glad of the character you give of our friend's[4] principles. I dare say you'll believe me when I assure you that I heartily wish ev'rything that is good to both his father's and mother's son. Att the same time, I must tell you what has a litle the air of a paradox, but I was assured of it by one, whose understanding I could not doubt, that he was

[1] John Grant of Delnabo wrote to Tammore on 26th May, 1746:—"Your nephew has gote to be Surgeon's mate in a twenty gun ship, the name of which I have forgote; but I doubt not he has wrote you himself." Presumably Robert, son of Alexander Grant, Hillockhead, is referred to; he became a Merchant in London, and subsequently acquired the estate of Wester Elchies, Knockando, etc. Robert's nephew, the son of his brother, James, was Sir William Grant of Beldorney, Master of the Rolls, born at Hillockhead, Rothes, 13th October, 1752. "Rothes Parish Register."

[2] *Vide* Nos. IV and LXXV.

[3] *I.e.*, Donald Grant of the family of Tullochgorm.

[4] Lord Elchies *may*, perhaps, here allude to Major George Grant of Culbin. *Vide* Note to No. LII.

not mistaken, nor his veracity that he did not mean to impose upon me, and that is, that Dr. Cameron, Lochiel's brother,[1] is of the very same principles, and yet you know what he did. My principles are the very same in all things, and as much in that article as in the rest—not to persecute ane honest good man for differing from me in principle or opinion. God forbid that I should persecute a papist, only because he is a papist, supposing it were in my power. But for all that, if I knew a trafficking papist, I would be so farr from harbouring him, that I would give all my assistance to have him punisht as the law directs; and my rule is the same in politicks—I would persecute none for differing from me. But such as wait only for ane opportunity to destroy the very being of the constitution, and my liberty of daring to own my principles, I would use in the same way with trafficking papists. And I confess it is a very uncouth sort of love that wee have to the constitution, or to the family upon whose wellfare the very being of the constitution depends, if, att the same time, wee harbour their avow'd enemies so as they may be ready on the first occasion that offers, to overthrow both; and perhaps it has been something of that kind, and some very odd ways of talking, that has given rise to what I hinted to you. It is true Rothie was also accus'd,[2] but is fully justified; and I wish our friend could be so too.

What you write me is the first account I have heard of Mr. Gray since I saw him. I own it was ane omission not to write to Logie[3] and Blackhills,[4] for which pray make my apology when you see them, but as it was session time, I thought very litle on the subject, and as they did not reside in the parish, I never

[1]Dr. Archibald Cameron, executed at Tyburn for high treason, on Thursday, 7th June, 1753.

[2]James Grant of Rothiemurchus was Deputy-Governor of Fort George during the Rebellion of 1745, but abandoned it to the rebels, for which he was tried by Court-Martial. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 509.

[3]Alexander Cumming of Logie; at this time owner of Nether Glens of Rothes.

[4]Robert Innes of Blackhills; at this date owner of Barluack, in the parish of Rothes.

thought of writing to them. However, I'm glad that his affair goes on so well. I could not have thought that so small a sum would have built the Kirk of Dindurcus.

I have not yet the smallest remembrance of my making ane agreement with Mr. Dalrymple, yea, I don't remember my being in the north in May 1716, but if I were att Carberry, I fancy I could find out whether I was or not. However, I wou'd not trust a copy, but see the principall; but whatever has been the use of paymt must surely be continued. As to Mr. Sim,[1] he has no right to dictate his own oath. You must do it for him. When he answers darkly, putt down his answers as he gives them, but still ask on till he speak plain. But really I can see no room for dark answers where it is only ane exhibition of all bonds, bills, missive letters, accounts, poles, tickets, or other writing, either to his brother or by him, or if he knows or suspects where they are, or if he has fraudfully putt any of them away.

Allexr Proctor is ane old tenent, and was there before I was Laird, and I confess I rather lett them both continue as they are while the old man lives, than remove him for all the addition of rent.

I dare say your bargain about the miln of Dandaleith is a good one. If I can make anything of a steel malt miln, ther will be no difficulty in sending one to you. The cost of it, I think, is abt 3 guineas; and in East Lothian, where timber and work are both dearer than with you, it can be sett up in a meal miln to go with the same wheel, so as both may go att one time, or either of them, as the miller has occasion. You know how much I want to settle marches with our chief, but he is always so hurried when in the countrey, that he never can find time for it. Should the chamberlain persist to fish, you are the very best hand to write the chief complaining. Pray don't delay your setting tacks for my coming north. If I keep my health I may probably be there next harvest; but it is very uncertain whether I can see my own house. If I do not see it before the Circuite, it will not be possible

[1]Rev. Walter Sime, Mortlach.

to be two nights there in my return. I have not the least doubt of Willie's capacity for the merchtt trade: he is a very fine wise boy. Carolina din'd with me this day. He is not for Abdn, which, he says, would be breeding him to the smuggling trade, because most part of their import is in that way, and they have very litle of the plantation trade. What they import from thence is chiefly for export, and not all fair neither, and therefor he preferrs Glasgow.

As to Lettoch,[1] he will show you the dect arbitrall, and when you pay the money, gett up the dect and bond with a full discharge of both, and of every thing else that he can demand. I shall be greatly oblig'd to you in paying likewise the M1000 to Tullochgorm's brother's[2] heirs. I think the bond is to heirs male, or heirs secluding assigneys, so that ther must be a generall service, either as nearest heir, or as heir male, according as the bond is; and upon getting that service, with a discharge from the heir and the liferentrix, you may pay the money; and if you want any money to make it up, acquaint me, and I shall remitt it, or you may draw on me for it. I have done nothing yet in the sale of my meal: I wait till the matter of the barracks be settled; you know I am a very bad hand att selling. Now I think I have particularly answered all the particulars of your letter, and wearied both you and myself much more than you wearied me, and for once you wont complain that I have delay'd long.

My compliments to all the family att Balnadaloch, and to Mrs. Grant. I am,

dr Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

Endorsed:—Lo/ Elches' letter of 10th March annent paying Lettoch, and the heirs of Donald Grant, broyr to Tullgorm. 1748.

[1] *Vide* Nos. IV and LXXIV.

[2] *I.e.*, Donald Grant; *Vide* Note at end of Letter.

No. LXXVI.

March 24th, 1748.

Dear Robert,

Only this day 'twixt sermons (being fast day), did I receive your two letters of the 12th and 16th, and if they requir'd a long answer, I should not have time to write it. As to Proctor and his neighbour, as I don't wish to remove ane old tennent that pays his rent, so I'm afraid that pique and resentment may provoke them to offer on one another more than the lands can bear, and I wou'd not wish that, when wee are both gone, the young Laird should have any pretence to say that wee had screw'd the land so high that he must be forc't to lett it down. But you are best judge of these matters, and I leave all to you.

Your other letter, were it to be answer'd in writing, would require more time than I can afford, and therefor I shall only tell you that it shall be read in a proper place, and for the rest, referr you to another: for your friend John[1] has gott his Matie's commn to be Deputy Sheriff of two counties, Elgin and Nairn, and must sett out furthwith for his government, where he can hardly stay a fortnight before he must return ; for he must be att Stirling to go the Western Circuite the 19th Aprile, and in that litle time, he must travell thro' both counties and appoint proper substitutes. In all which, he will greatly need your advice and assistance. He hopes to be att Elchies next Wednesday night, the 30th instant, and beggs that you'll meet him there. I am, in heast,

dear Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

[1]Lord Elchies' eldest son.

Willie went north yesterday. Poor Auchter[1] is again taken ill of the aigue.

No. LXXVII.

Carberry, Apr. 9th, 1748.

Dear Rot,

I doubt I neglected in my letter of the 24th ulto to give a particular ansr. to that part of yours of the 16th anent paying Lettoch and Donald Grant's heirs; and Mr. Gray's letter of the 31 ulto with your postscript came to hand in the countrey only the 8th currt., since which ther was no post till now. I can't imagine where the difficulty can be as to Lettoch's debt: it is now due by a dect arbitrall dated 23d March, 1731, proceeding on a submission twixt us (he also taking burden for his sisters and their husbands) dated 27th Decr 1727, and both regrate in the books of Session 26 March, 1731. The totall sum found due was £6,134: 3: 6 Scots, which was payll att 3 severall terms, the last whereof was this M1000, which was made payll the first term of Whits. or Mart. after his mother's death with @ rent from the term of payt, and you know that all the rest is pay'd, for you yourself made the last payt, and gott a very full discharge of the decreet (with the exception of that M1000) dated 26th Decr 1733. But I needed not have been so particular, for he has the extract of the decreet, which is recited in that discharge from which I have writt this note. Therefor, you'll gett up that extract and gett a discharge apart; and I don't care how short it be, if it acknowledge the receipt now of the M1000 and discharge the whole decreet, because it is all implemented, for I must regrate that discharge since the decreet is in the register. If he pretends not to

[1]Captain Lewis Grant of Achterblair and Carron, who appears to have been on intimate terms with Lord Elchies. *Vide* App. No. LXIX. Tammore also acted for a time as factor for the former, from whom he received a letter dated 18th April, 1745, in connection with acquiring the lands of Carron, in which occurs the following: "I really beleive Lord Elchies is the only person living that should determine you in the affair . . . I told my friend, Lord Elchies, that I had left powers with you to act in my affair as it was your own."

have the decreet, it is all affected; and you'll make a tender of the money, att Whits., and on his refusall, consign it, and send me the instruments; but it cannot be before Whits. As to Donald Grant's heirs, the bond is, I think is, to heirs male, or to heirs secluding exrs., so that a service is absolutely necessary. Therefor, require them, under form of instrument, to make up their titles, and to receive paymt and discharge the debt agst Whits., and then make them a tender of the money on delivering you their service, with the bond and a sufficient discharge, and on their refusall, consign in some responsall man's hands.

Make my excuse to Mr. Gray, that I have not time to write to him, but I'm very glad his affair goes on so well; and I'm in no fears but Logie and his elders will be very soon reconcil'd to him.

Att the same time that I gott Mr. Gray's letter, I gott also the inclosed from Mr. Gordon.[1] You know I'm not well acquainted with him, notwithstanding the concern I took in his settlement. However, I confess I'm pleas'd with the letter, and think he writes very like a gentleman. But I suspect you have been a litle arch with the clergy, and read to them only a part of my letter, for I find that Decr 3d I wrote to you that I would rather pay my proportion of £102 (the sum you then told me was wanted) than have any dispute; and I wou'd, I own, do the same, were it twice as much. Therefor, pray sett the matter to rights again, and dont lett me disoblige my ministers, tho' I know you are a litle indifferent about your disobliging them.

And pray make my compliments to Mr. Gordon, and my apology that I have not time to write to him, being hurried preparing for the Circuite. But if the money be pay'd, I fancy he'll forgive me till wee are better acquaint. I need not putt you in mind to execute my commn about my writts that the rebels

[1]The Rev. Thomas Gordon, Minister of the parish of Dundurcas (suppressed in 1782, and united partly to Boharm and partly to Rothes); son of the Minister of Lonmay; ordained 16th September, 1747; translated to Speymouth, 1758. Shaw's "Moray," Vol. III, 368.

destroy'd, or about taking Mr. Sim's oath. My compliments to all the family att Balnadaloch, and to Mrs. Grant. I am, dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

Upon 2d thoughts, to preserve my credite with the clergy, I have writt ane answer to Mr. Gordon; but I have sent it open to you, that you may seall and deliver it, or not, as ye think proper.

Endorsed in R. G.'s writing:—Lord Elches' letter of the 9th Ap. covering one to the minister of Dundurcus, and directing to pay his share of repairing the manse. 1748.

No. LXXVIII.

Edr, June 30th, twixt one & 2 afternoon.

[1748.]

Dear Rot,

About two hours ago the Capt. of the Hazard[1] went on board in order to cruize to the northward, and as the wind is fair, it is very probable that by the time you receive this (which I reckon will be Munday next) he will be off Spey's mouth, where he intends to putt ashore some wine and kitchen furniture that he carries for the Sheriff's use; and if he does not find it inconvenient or hurtfull for the service, or dangerous for the king's sloop to ly off that barr, he may possibly make a trip himself the length of Elchies or Balnadaloch, provided he can gett cattle to carry him; and as I doubt not you will do what you can to furnish him with these, and with carriages for the

[1]The Hazard sloop of war, carrying 16 guns, 24 swivels and about 80 men, and commanded by Captain Hill, was, in November, 1745, cleverly captured in Montrose Harbour by Captain David Ferrier, on behalf of Prince Charles. *Vide* Chambers' "History of the Rebellion of 1745-6."

Sheriff's things, he will, how soon he comes off that harbour, fire a gun whereby you may know him, and will send his boat ashore if the weather permitt it, which is the reason of my giving you this trouble, that you may have some body of sense att Garmoch against the time he may be there, and, if you can, that you may provide him with horses, that he may have it in his power, if there is no other obstacle to it, to make you a visite. If the wind changes before the post go away, I shall tell you in a postscript. I ever am, Dear Rot,

Your own,

P. Grant.

No. LXXIX.

Edr, Novr 24th, 1748.

Dear Rot,

Only this moment I gott time to read yours of the 17th, which I receiv'd only this morning, in the house. I have been enquiring, where I had opportunity, about the price of meal, and all I could learn is that 'tis thought it will sell, but I have not heard of any bargains or any price struck, and people here bogle greatly att Garmoch's being the port of delivery. I also desired John Stephen to inform me if he heard of any bargains or offers made, but he has told me of none. You know I am very bad att selling, and I believe you must sell it yourself. I'm glad to hear of so reasonable ane offer made you, and therefor pray dispose of it in the same way as if it were your own, and I shall not faill to acquaint you in the meantime if I hear of any better offers; and lett them be what they will, shall make no bargain, att least none but under the condition that it is not already sold.

As to John Roger,[1] I know not what is my son's project as

[1]The name of Patrick Roger, "son to John Rodger gardiner there" (Elchies), appears amongst the witnesses to the signing of a discharge at Clayfurr, Easter Elchies, on 24th October, 1745; and on 26th May, 1754, "John Rodger, gardiner at Easter Elchies," was a witness at a baptism. "Rothes Parish Register."

to the garden, but since he will not probably have any settled residence att Elchies, I think it wou'd be idle in him to be att any expenses about it; and I am determin'd to be att no more than I am. I confess I think John Roger's demand a litle extravagant for wages as grieve. One rule I have of judging is the one I have now att Carberry, who must have the whole trust and management of my litle affairs there, and who is my only plowman and carter, and I dare say understands twice as much of farming as John Roger does. I fee'd him att much higher wages than ever I gave before, for his skill, and the trust I found I must give him, and that he must keep accounts, and yet his wages is but £5 st in the year, and 7 sh for 2 pairs shoes, which I think is much the same with John's demand of £4: 10 st with shoes and a frock; and therefor, however John may gett yt wages in the north, I can, I think, assure him he will not gett it here. But after all, as he may be usefull to you in managing my affairs, I leave that wholly to you, as I do everything else, not for this half-year only, but for all time coming. You know I could be satisfied to be quitt of Duff;[1] and I suppose whatever his houses are truly worth, ane incoming tennent wont grudge to pay it. If better cannot be, I shall send a letter of bailliary to John Proctor, but I could wish it were to one of higher rank. If you have any scruples yourself, I wish you could perswade Balnageith[2] to take it. You see I have not losst a moment in answering your letter, but cannot write very fully. I am, in heast,

dear Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

[1]Patrick Duff in Conrack. *Vide* App. No. CXXI.

[2]William Leslie; he appears to have died soon after this date, the following entry appearing in the "Rothes Parish Register":—"Oct. 16, 1749. Received for the Mortcloth to Balnageith—12—."

No. LXXX.

Edr, 22 Decr, 1748.

Dear Rot,

This is the first notice I could give you of any bargain of meall struck in this place; and it is that Ld Braco, I'm told, sold last night to Mr. Wm. Alexander, one of our Baillies, 5 or 6000 bolls att 7 sh the boll, but then the great part of it is of cropt 1746; and my informer tells me that it is for serving the west countrey, and thinks mine att least 1 sh the boll better, but I don't write this for any limitation or direction to you. I forgott, in my last of this day se-night, to tell you that Sr Lud.[1] has ordered his fishing proces to be stopt till furder orders: it proceeded from my complaining of such a proces against his friends within the Craig Elachies, who, I was perswaded, would give him all the assistance in their power in floting his timber while the people below did more hurt. I writt him last post to send his orders to Lachlan[2] what he would ask of his friends, which probably I shall soon hear, but I fancy our fishers will not be interrupted. Compy is just coming in. I am, in heast,

dr Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

No. LXXXI.

Edr, 5th Janry, 1749.

Dear Rot,

I receiv'd only this day yours of the 22d ulto, and intended, tho' I had not gott it, to have writt to you, and sent you a letter I had from Sr Ludovick, Sunday last, anent the fishing, with a copy of my ansr on Tuesday last, but tho' I have this afternoon

[1]Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant, Bart.

[2]Lachlan Grant of Gartinbeg, writer in Edinburgh.

search'd every place I can think of, yet I cannot find either of them, tho' I'm sure I had them yesterday. His letter is long, but the substance of it is that, upon what I had writt him, he would stop further proceedings in his proces, untill he return home, and endeavour to settle with his friends. My answer was that I never heard that any body disputed his right of floting, and I was perswaded, if he had not already a right, his friends betwixt the Craig Elachies would contribute all in their power to give him one; that according to my information, the dikes did not prejudge his floting a twopence, but if they did, his friends would give him all the assistance in their power to flote down his timber. Thus stands that matter att present; and I think the fishers may safely enough go on as before; but then I submitt to you whether it would be prudent to take so hottly what the floters have done, or if it won't be wiser not to seem to know it.

I know no more of the price of meal than what I formerly wrote you, and I join with you in wishing that mine were sold; but then you know who must do it, and that I am very ill of the trade.

I shall deliver your message to Lachlan, and give him what money he calls for, tho' I am run pretty near. I am sorry that Rothie is so bad ane accountant; what his son wrote you was by my order. He may probably have use for it, and I don't chuse to lett the debt swell. I think this materially answers all your letter, and I have not time to write of anything else. Many good New Years to Mrs. Grant, to all the family att Balnadaloch, and all other friends. I am, dear Rot,

yours,

P. Grant.

No. LXXXII.

Edr, 12 Janry, 1748 (1749?)

Dear Rot,

I wrote you before, and you know it, that I am a very bad hand for selling victuall; I have neither time nor skill for it,

therefor you are not to trust to me. The Lyon[1] told me he had sold his bear att ten merks, and therefor all I can say in answer to yours of Decr 31st, brot me by last post, is to send you the inclos'd ler of bailliary to John Grant.[2] As to Mr. Gordon,[3] I can say nothing; you and the tennents are best judges what to do in that. I am, in heast, dear Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

No. LXXXIII.

Edr, 26th Janry, 1749.

Dear Rot,

Yesternight I receiv'd yours of the 19th, and as you told me your meal merchtts were drawing back their former offer, I sent for my friend Mr. Steven, who came to me this morning, and gave him a commn to sell directly att M7, and desired him to report to me att dinner his success, and his report was that they would not give me M7 for both cropt 1747 and 1748, but that he believ'd they might come the length of £4: 10 for both, and I told him I wou'd not take less than had been offered you. Tombea happen'd to dine with us, and, in the conversation, talking in generall of the price of meal, it came out that Buchan meal had been sold att M7, that Ld Abdn had sold a parcell att £4: 6, whereof a part was cropt 1746, and perhaps 1745; and Tombea said he had been talking with a friend of some of the buyers, and told them he expected £5, and was answered that he believ'd he would gett it. This made me desirous to converse Tombea after dinner, and his opinion was not to take att present under £5, and said that the market was only beginning, and the west country

[1]Alexander Brodie of Brodie; he was appointed Lord Lyon in 1727, and died in 1754. "The Scottish Nation," Vol. I, 382.

[2]Probably John Grant in Ardcanny, Rothes.

[3]Perhaps Rev. Thomas Gordon, Minister of Dundurcas.

people beginning to offer. I gave him a commn to try what he could do with mine, and he has promis'd to lett me know from time to time what can be done. I'm not sure, however, whether I would not yet take the M7, if it were in my offer, tho' he gives me better hopes than I had. If I happen to make any bargain, if it's possible I'll make it conditionall if you have not made one, tho' it's possible that may not be agreed. But I fancy, if you should make a bargain, it will be less difficult for you to gett it conditionall, in case I have not already sold.

You may as well bid John Proctor explain the jurisdiction Act of Parlt about Baron Baillies, as the two you mention, and I have not time, therefor you must even consider it yourself. Young Rothie's[1] discharge is right, and I fancy Tullochgorm will take the money. You know my inclinations with respect to Patrick Duff, but it is a bad reason you give for my sending a precept of warning: sure you would not have me counteract anything you do, therefor you must take some other way. I have no more spare time. I am, in heast, dr Rot,

yours,

P. GRANT.

No. LXXXIV.

Carberry, 20th March, 1751.

Dear Rot,

I receiv'd yours of the 8th before I came out of town last Thursday, but as I was just packing up my baggage to remove, I could not answer it by that post. Dr Rot, you are always doing me good, and tho', as you know, I very seldom deal in compliments

[1]Patrick Grant, yr., of Rothiemurchus (the "White Laird"). He married Lord Elchies' daughter, Helen, on 24th December, 1746. He was a Lieutenant in Loudoun's Fencibles. In 1746 he raised a Rothiemurchus Company for the Laird of Grant, which Company he commanded as Captain. He died at Elgin on 17th May, 1790, having made an entail of Rothiemurchus in 1787. By his wife, who died at Edinburgh on 12th March, 1791, he had no issue, and was succeeded by his nephew, the son of his brother William. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 510. There is a portrait of Mrs Grant in the possession of J. P. Grant of Rothiemurchus.

with my friends, yet, in this letter, you tell me of so many good things, that I really cannot restrain myself from thanking you. I am very glad of the tennents in the New lands scheme of building a miln, and that you told it to the offerers att the roup of the mill; but you must also take care to have these grounds that are to grind att the new miln excepted out of the tack, and power expressly reserv'd to build that new miln; and as to John Proctor's allowance, you shall be judge of that. As to the matter of the Glens, I am very glad that the bargain is gone off. The very things you have done for me are a great temptation to me, and make me sorry to see the lands go to another; and yet I know not what to say. John won't meddle, and I can hardly blame him; and you know how improper such bargains are for one in my scituation. It's true, if I should live a great many years, I might happen to save as much as the price I had sunk, without hurting my younger children; but how can I expect that? And, should I dye soon, if John would not then take the bargain as I had it, (tho' I fear it wou'd not be much more proper for him then than now) in that case, my younger children behov'd to suffer. But, after all that I have said, I trust so much to your judgement, that I'll leave it wholly to you; but 30 years purchass seems to me to be out of all bounds.

As to All. Proctor, if he is pleas'd, I'm sure I have no reason to be displeas'd, and I wish it may prove a good bargain to him, for he deserves something for his labour. And I am no less pleas'd with the project of a mill in Aikenway, and wish them success with all my heart.

We have been offer'd £5 for our meal Martinmass payt, and if wee cannot gett more I incline to take it, and to write, to that purpose, to my son, this day or to morrow.

As to the tutory,[1] were I residing in that countrey, so as I might join in acting with the other tutors, the danger of my heirs being called to account, perhaps 20 years hence, woud, for certain,

[1]Captain Alexander Grant of Ballindalloch died on 24th January, 1751, leaving an only son, William, afterwards Major William Grant.

be no good reason for declining to do that good office to my friend, otherwise no tutor wou'd accept. But what I meant, and I fancy, wrote you, was that my accepting can be of no possible advantage to him, if it is not the subjecting me and my heirs to such ane action; and if he proves (as our phrase is) either father's son or goodsir's oye he won't thank me for that. But I don't propose to save myself any of the trouble it w'uld cost me were I to accept, and that is none other than giving the best advice I am capable of.

I don't think ther is any great necessity to call the Capt.[1] home before June, but as ther will be many things to be done before that time, I think it necessary that att least a quorum of the tutors accept, and even a quorum besides the Lady,[2] and that you immediately make up judiciall inventars, which needs not contain the rentall but only the names of the lands with all his movll and personall estate. I am quite of your opinion that the Ladie's interest and the pupill's are now one and the same, and I hope will continue so; but as there are events in which they may separate, so were I quite sure that they wou'd never separate, yet I wou'd advise both the Lady and the other tutors to act in the same manner as if their interests were quite unconnected. Then, when you come to count with him, he will have the satisfaction of seeing that full justice has been done him, and that you can do without hurting either of them. And parly with respect to the Mains, without doubt the Lady has right to the cropt now to be laid down, and therefor it must be laid down att her expense; and ther is as litle doubt that the pupill has right to all the cattle, and what remain'd of the last cropt. The Lady has no cattle to labour the ground, and the pupill has no ground to labour with his cattle. Now figure the case that the Lady were not mother, but step-mother to the pupill, and do you just the

[1]Doubtless Captain James Grant, who afterwards succeeded to the Ballindalloch Estates.

[2]Mrs. Penuel Grant, widow of Captain Alexander Grant. She was alive in 1798. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 511.

same as you wou'd do in that case. It is his interest, yea, he is under a necessity of selling, and its her interest to buy both cattle and corn; and that ther may remain written evidence that justice was done the pupill, lett some persons of character, as well as skill in these matters, be employ'd to value the cattle upon oath, and then roup them after advertising them att 4 or 5 of the nearest parish kirks; and whatever is necessary for the Lady, she can give more for it than any other can afford, but lett them be sett up att the value putt on them. This, you see, will need a quorum besides the Lady, to prevent exceptions that she was both buyer and seller; but you can be in no strait, for ther are six[1] of you in the North, without the Capt. I have talked over the whole with Delnabo,[2] and given him copies of the papers, but I think you should not delay either the judiciall inventaries or the roup of the cattle, for his coming.

Bob and Tibie are a good deal the better of coming to the countrey. He is gone a fishing tho it is a very coarse day. If Peggie be fond of going north, I shall not oppose it, tho' I don't find that she has any benefite by it, and is very troublesome to her friends. My daur Mrs. Grant still holds out, and is, I thank God, very well.[3] My most sincere compliments to Lady Balnadaloch and Mrs. Grant. I am,

dr Rot,

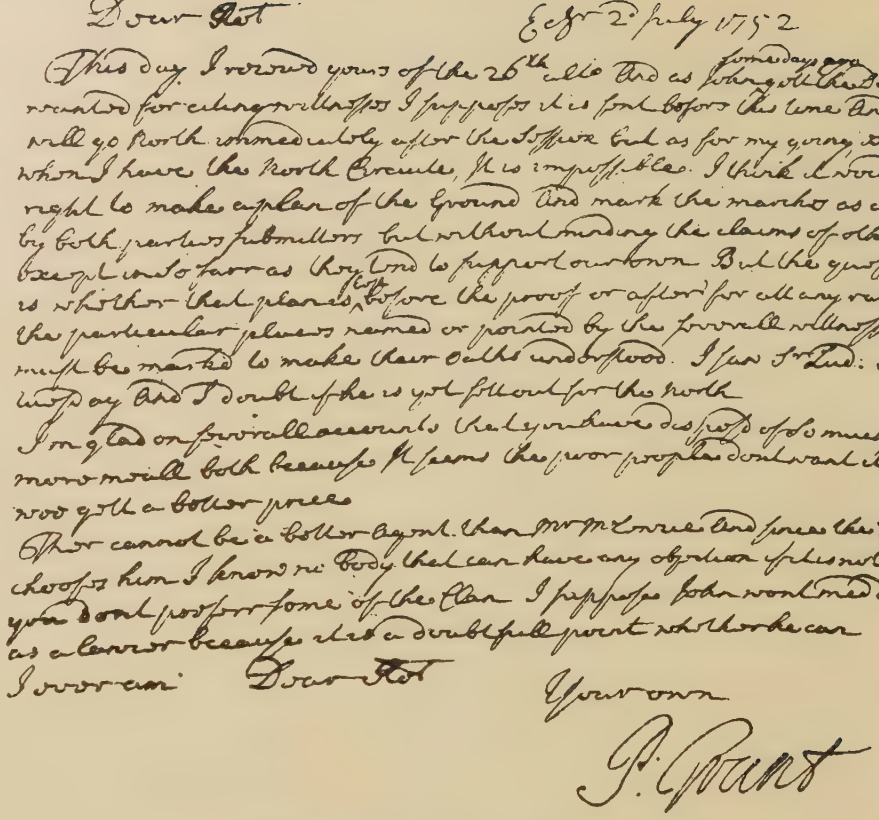
yours,

P. Grant.

[1]Among these were:—Mrs. Penuel Grant, Alexander Grant of Dalrachnie, George McPherson of Invereshie, Captain Lewis Grant of Achterblair and Captain John Forbes of Newe.

[2]John Grant, writer in Edinburgh, died February, 1752.

[3]In this paragraph Lord Elchies apparently mentions four of his children.



Fac-simile of Lord Elchies' Last Letter.

No. LXXXV.

Edr., 2d July, 1752.

Dear Rot,

This day I receiv'd yours of the 26th ulto, and, as John some days ago gott the dilligence wanted for citing wittnesses, I supposes it is sent before this time, and he will go north immediately after the session; but as for my going, except when I have the North Circuite, it is impossible. I think it wou'd be right to make a plan of the ground, and mark the marches as claim'd by both parties submitters; but without minding the claims of others except in so far as they tend to support our own. But the question is whether that plan is best before the proof or after? For att any rate the particular places named or pointed by the severall wittnesses must be mark'd, to make their oaths understood. I saw Sr Lud. on Tuesday, and I doubt if he is yet sett out for the north.

I'm glad, on severall accounts, that you have dispos'd of so much more meall, both because it seems the poor people don't want it, and wee gett a better price.

Ther cannot be a better agent than Mr. McKenzie;[1] and, since the Capt. chooses him, I know no body that can have any objection, if it is not that you don't preferr some of the clan. I suppose John won't meddle as a lawier, because it is a doubtfull point whether he can.[2] I ever am, dear Rot,

your own,

P. Grant.

[1]Doubtless in reference to the appointment of John McKenzie of Delvin (Clerk of the Signet) as agent for the young Laird of Ballindalloch, in place of John Grant of Delnabo, who had recently died.

[2]This letter has reference to the lawsuit between the Duke of Gordon and Grant of Ballindalloch as to marches.

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No. I.

ROBERT GRANT, Easter Duthil, to Mr. PATRICK GRANT.

[Easter Duthell]

7th Nobr, 1722.

Dear S[ir]

I have hade my sone this four or five sessiones at Elgine, and I am informed yt he wants not capacitie, and I incline much he hade educatione soe far as my conditione will allow of it, qch will not goe a great lenth except friends concur to act for him. He is yt fortounat yt ther is few will goe from this place yt hath friends more capable to doe them service then he hath if he be deserving of it. If you be as willing to serve your friend as your father was, ther is none will goe beyound you, for I blesse God for it you ar as capable qch is my great satisfactione. I do not incline he should be chairgab[l]e to you or to any of his friends; I know your owning and continancing of him will provide for him soe yt he can be asisting to himself in mantinance and educatione if he be capable, and qt ever favour of this nature you doe him I will own it to be as profitable to him and me as if you had given money out of your pocket. If providence and friends doe not provide for him, my conditione will not allow me keep him ther longer then this sessione. I wrote to my cousine, Robert Grant, anents my sone; you will be pleased to call for him, and see when my sone will be imployed for this sessione. I was not weill provide of money qn my sone went of, soe you will [*sic*] pleased to give two or three pound sterling to him as he calls for it, and his recept for the samaine will oblidge me satisfie you. I can not but use freedom with your ffather sone, albeit you were Lord off Sessione qch I hope you will or I dy. I expect you will excuse this trouble. Your Aunt and self wishes all prosperitie to yourself, Lady and children, and I am,

dear Sir,
yours to serve you
while
R. GRANT.

No. II.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to Mr. PATRICK GRANT.

Burncrooks, 16th Decr, 1727.

Sir,

I have drawen bill on you of this date payable to Duncan McPherson, servitor to the Laird of Bracco or order, for the sum of two hundred pounds starling money, at three days' sight, which I hope you'l honour. It's because you wrote me that you had the money by you and could not get it remit, that I drew it at so short a time as three days' sight. I shall apply the money as you advised in your letters to me, and am,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

Endorsed:—Mr. Patrick Grant of Easter Elches, Advocat, at his house in the Covenant Closs Edr:

No. III.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to Mr. PATRICK GRANT.

Ballindalloch, 28ht Feb., 1729.

Ho/ Sir,

I had yours of the 12th by Dellcaple[1] two days agoe, and in it a bill drawen by the Laird of Grant one John Crushank,[2] chad: of Mulben, for therty seven pound sixteen shilling starling, payable to you, and by you to me value in acount, for qch and for one hundred and sixty two pound four shilling I receaved in

[1]Robert Grant of Dellachapple.

[2]Of Achmadies.

specie from Dellcaple upon my recept and oblidgement to get the recept to give you for the sum last mentioned, I shall give you credit, but as I doe not expect that bill on John Crushank will answer sooner than next Mart: term, I want your advice if it's proper to protest and return it. You forgot to advise me what creditors I am to pay with this money, I am resolved to clear Lurg[1] the money due to his broyr[2] children how soon he comes from Edr, and the debt due to Stuart of Aldcarn,[3] and shall write them this day, and I think the £200 will be about what will pay of both these creditors. But seeing the bill will not answer, shall see to borrow so much to make it out. As for @ rents I doe not incline to pay any till Mart: next, when I hope those that has most to crave may get both prinll and @ rents together.

Delrachnie has sold 150 bolls of your meall to John Bailie of Torbreack, for the use of Riven[4] Barrack, at ten merks eight stone, ⅔ of the money payable the first of August, the oyr 3d at Mart. next. I want still about £25 starling of the price of your meall that fell due at Mart: last. I'le observe your directiones annent paying Ringorm.[5] By the time this is with you you'l have time to look to the acount I sent by Grant's sert., and the rentalls for adjusting the stipend of the parish of Knockandow that I sent by Duncan Urqurt, and I intreat a return to that of the stipend to keep us in peace with the minister.

I was at Elches yesterday and left your moyr and the children weell. I wish to get good acounts of your Lady, and am,

Ho: Sir,
your most humble Sert.,
Rob: Grant.

Mind John Dingwall of sending north weights.

[1]Robert Grant, yr., of Lurg. *Vide* App. Nos. V, XVII and XIX.

[2]Patrick Grant of Ellan.

[3]There is a place called Auldcharn in parish of Abernethy.

[4]*I.e.*, Ruthven.

[5]Robert Grant of Ringorm.

No. IV.

Mr. William Grant[1] to Mr. Patrick Grant.

Dr Sir,

I find every thing in the letter drawn up as to the parish of Knockando, agreeable to our conference. Only the point as to the converted customs and services of Bellintomb[2] I was to inform myself further as to the practice, and I have been told by both the Clerks to the Committean of Teinds, that those are not to be accounted a part of the rent—and I have also put the question to Mr. Robert Dundas[3] who agrees in opinion that what the Clerks inform me is right—If you please to make the proper alteration as to this point, I shall concur with your directions as to the whole —I am, Dr Sir,

your affectionate & most humble servant,
William Grant.

March 1st, 1729.

Endorsed :—To Mr. Patrick Grant of Elches, Advocate, Edr.

No. V.

Thomas Grant of Achoynanie to Mr. Patrick Grant.

Dr Sir,

I have sent you inclosed the proposals anent the salmond fishing ; I hope ye will give me your thoughts of them in writeing

[1]Afterwards Lord Prestongrange. *Vide* No. X, Part I.

[2]The paternal estate of Mr. William Grant's father, Lord Cullen, but sold by the latter some years prior to his death in 1726.

[3]Afterwards Lord Arniston, and successor to Duncan Forbes of Culloden as Lord President of the Court of Session. In a "List of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland, 1746," preserved in the British Museum, there is the following note against his name:—"Attends the bar; has a large share in business for his standing; is eldest son to Lord Arniston; was lately his Majesty's Solicitor, married a lady of a very considerable fortune, and is known to be zealously well affected to the Government." His son, Robert, who, in 1760, was appointed Lord President, married, as his second wife, Jane, daughter of Lord Prestongrange.

if I shall happen to want the honour and pleasure of seeing you and your Lady at this place before ye go . . . south.

I am,
dr Sir,
your aff: & most obedient sertt.,

Arndillie, 7 Octor, 1729. THOMAS GRANTT [1]

No. VI.

Major LEWIS GRANT[2] (afterwards Lt.-Colonel Lewis Grant of Dunphail) to Mr. PATRICK GRANT.

Dr Petrie,

I hade yours of March the 18th and 29th last week, and now that you find me inclyn'd to save mony, I wonder you did not send both under cover to my brother, since they would have come to hand sooner, and cost nothing. I verry much approve of Mr. Farcharson in whose hands you have left Captn Forrester's bill and my mony, and shall send £352: 00: 9 sterlen by the first of June att furthest to him; which, wt what he has allready, will make the summe I intended, as you will see on the other syde; and I hope, by that time, you and Tommore will concert my affair betwixt you, for your letter has reconcyl'd me to a wadsett on Delvey, and as much of Skiravie[3] as will give me a vote; but then, as that will require more mony than I have, Tommore must

[1] Died at Arndilly, 25th November, 1758.

[2] "We learn from Jamaica that the Hon: Colonel Ludovick Grant, youngest Brother to Sir James Grant of Grant, died the 11th of March in that Island. This Gentleman commanded the Battallion of the Royal Scots called Dumbarton's, which made part of the late Expedition from Ireland. He had sailed along with the Fleet under Admiral Vernon, March 3d; but, being seized with a most violent Fever, was set on shore. He was universally esteemed as a learned, polite and honourable Gentleman. He had given early proofs of a military genius and capacity while an officer in his Brother's (Brigadier Grant) Regiment in the late Wars in Flanders; and as he had by unwearied application improved every talent natural or acquired, his death is a national loss." "Cal. Mer.," 7th June, 1742.

[3] In parish of Cromdale.

look out for such as will take those subaltern wadsetts you mention; and if the Coll.,[1] or Dellrachnie,[2] could gett me credit for £300, in order to keep the more of it in my own hands, I will give any security you can devise on the wadsett for it, and will ingadge to pay £100 a year of it att least, if not £150. You may comunicate this to Tommore, and act as you think most proper, for the mony shall answer att the time appointed. Make my humble duty acceptable to Mrs. Grant if wt you, to the Coll: and Tommore, who must be my factor as weall as yours, in case this purchase goes on. Adieu, dr Petrie. I am, sincerly yours, whyle

LEWIS GRANT.

Ross Castle, Apryll the 22d, 1732.

Captn Forrester's bill - - - -	£281	14	9
Sir Harry Innes's bill pay'd you - - -	44	12	6
Remitted you by Captn Straiton - - -	21	12	0
	347	19	3
To be remitted to Mr. Farcharson - -	352	00	9
	£700	00	0

No. VII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to Mr. PATRICK GRANT.

Ballindalloch, 24th Septr, 1732.

Ho/ Sir,

The inclos'd from William Grant came to my hand yesterday only, and I have covered the recept with a letter to James fferquhar, mert. at Portsoy. Give his letter to the officer to be sent to Portsoy to see if your seeds are come. I am,

Ho/ Sir,

your most humble and obedient sert,

ROB: GRANT.

[1]Collonel William Grant of Ballindalloch.

[2]John Grant of Dalrachnie.

No. VIII.

Sir Robert Dickson, Bart., of Carberry, to Lord Elchies.

My Lord,

I called yesterday at Mr. Ord, and read the letter he had from Sr Allexr Ramsay, and I feind that it's a devinitey bursrey that he has to dispose of. I told Mr. Ord to write Sr Allexr and give him your service and many thanks for ye offer, but ye young man yow want to provide for is not yet come ye legenth of divinitey. My most humble service to your Lady and familey. I am, My Lord,

your most obtt humble sertt,
Rott. Dickson.

Carberie, 14 Novr, 1736.

I'le see yow in toun on Tewesday.

No. IX.

Robert Grant of Tammore to Lord Elchies.

Tomoir, Septr 24th, 1742.

My Lord,

Delrachnie delivered me your Lo/ of the 8ht, and I called for the schoolmaster of Knokandow,[1] and laid your proposall of going south to teach your two young sones before him. He is a very poor lad, not able to afoord cloaths to equil him for service, but at the same time very ancious about his learning, and thinks that the closing himself up with young children would hinder his own studies. He has an offer of £10 a year to goe to teach a young

[1]The Presbytery of Aberlour "visited" the Church of Knockando on 7th July, 1741, and it is recorded that the name of the Schoolmaster was "Mr. James Grant."

boy, but has refused it; yet were your children to goe to a publick school where he would have an oportunity of learning something himself, he would frankly goe to wait of them; and, as it is, if you desire it, he will accept of your offer in hopes that you'l befriend him, and get him recommended to something that will help him forward in his educatione, but I told him that I thought you would not accept of him in that way; if it was not his choise to goe, that you would not have him on the footing of doing you a service, as you could be easily provided; so parted with him in that way. Mr. Hugh Grant says he is a very good Grecian, and understands the Latine tollerably weell, and seems to have a prety good opinion of his prudence by his extraordinary ffriendship; I guess that he is very weell pleas'd with him. For my part, I'me not much aquaint with him, but it seems your Lo/ cannot have him on any terms except you take it as a favour, and then, no doubt, if he pleas'd your Lo/, he would be expecting your good offices for him when an oportunity offered; which I ashoor'd him he might expect tho' not promis'd. That part of the terms that your Lo/ was not to be oblidg'd to keep [ ] any longer than the children were fit to goe to a publick schooll was not disagreable to him. If your Lo/ please to call him he will be sent.

It was right to get Borlum's[1] bill accepted, for I find tho' he promis'd to retire it in case it was not offer'd for acceptance it's possible he might not have time to call for it, tho' I see he did retire his bill from Mr. Bailie for the value. It's possible that I may be oblidged to draw on your Lo/ for £50, or for £60, about the terme, to pay some of the people to whom the catle I gave to Borlum belong'd, but shall delay it till the money is pay'd at least, and, if I can, till your money answer here to pay it.

Robie Grant[2] shu'd be sent north to concert with his fayr.

[1]Shaw Mackintosh of Borlum.

[2]Probably Tammore's nephew (the son of Alexander Grant, Hillockhead, and Margaret Grant, Tammore's sister), who subsequently purchased the estate of Wester Elchies, etc.

how he is to dispose of himself as soon as your Lo/ can spare him, or is oyrways provided. I am, my Lord,

your Lo/ most humble sert,

ROB: GRANT.

No. X.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to Lord ELCHIES.

My Lord,

I got Mr. Grant's letter covering the submission twixt your neighbour and you with a letter to Lethen[1] and one to the Capt. at Elches last week where I was for about ten days making out a juditiall rentall of your and Mr. Grant's lands. Wester Elches[2] was not at home when the submission came to my hand, but I left it to be sent him, and sent the Capt. his own and the letter to Lethen, to Elgine, where he has been thir three or four weeks. I doe not know if Wester Elches and he will wait of Lethen before he comes up this length or not, but was told that they were to meet at Elgine to concert when to wait of Lethen.

I caus'd warn some of your Lo/s tennents, and agreed with John Simson in Dundurcus for a tack of his own possesion and as much more of an oyr possesione as makes out 2 chalders pay of Dundurcus for 19 years after Whitsunday 1752. He has agreed to pay the present rent, and about £15 of money and 3 bolls meall yearly of additionall rent, but as he had a year's tack to run the additionall rent for his own possesione does not commence till 1754, but to make up that he has promis'd two guneas of grassum. I have likeways agreed to give Allexr Riach[3] in Goslipcraig a tack for the like time of his possesion of the half of Goslipcraig and as much of the barren ground as will be mark'd out by me

[1] Alexander Brodie.

[2] Lewis Grant of Wester Elchies. *Vide* App. Nos. CXXVII and CXXVIII.

[3] *Vide* App. No. LIII.

to be improven by him, for the present rent and £6 of additionall rent for the improvements to be made by him, and he is bound under a penalty to improve a certain quantity yearly, and when I goe to Elches next, hope to get the rest of that barren ground which is call'd the Bogrods and lys on the burn above Arcany also set to be improven: this is the only part that I never could get sett till now, and I still blam'd the tennents for diswading any from taking it, but now rather than be turn'd out of there possesions they undertake to make corn or grass of as much of it as will be thought fitt to give them; and tho' it yeild litle at present, or for the first 19 years, some of your successors will be the better of it. Your tennents of Aik'nway agreed last year to build a miln for themselves but fail'd, and I order'd them to grind there corns at one of your mills till there own mill was built. Some of them came with there corns to the mill of Rothes, and one or two went to Papin. If they doe not pay dry multer, I'me resolved to cause them fflit, for yr is no reason they sh'ud grind at an oyr heritor's miln when they can be served with a litle more trouble at your Lo/ milne. Your tennents have but a poor cropt, and this season does not yet promise much better than the last. Mr. Brebner[1] has wrote me that he will probably call for the first part of the meall soon: I have wrote him that it would be a favor to let it alone till the tennents have done with there labouring. I doe not know what he will doe; meall is still rising. The weather is excessive stormy and boisterous, and the labouring far behind the ordinary time of sowing; wee have had plenty of snow and blowing every day for thir ten past. I must beg leave to ask the favour of your Lo/ to give seventy pounds starline to your sone Mr. John and to take his recept to me for it. The balance due to me on the acount with your Lo/ is about £1431 Scots, but there will be near to £100 sterline yet resting by your tennents of there money rent, and I'me not sure but I will be oblidg'd to draw on your Lo/ for £40 more, but shall try if I can get it evited. If not, hope your Lo/ will forgive me, and as soon

[1] *Vide* App. No. LXXII.

as I get in any of the arears in the tennents' hands, shall remitt it in case I draw for the £40 sterline.

I never saw worse weather at this season of the year: there has not been any sown since the 13th, and just now and almost every day since the 13th, the ground is cover'd with snow. Robie McMillan is still maintain'd about the house of Elches: whether am I to put the meall he eats to your Lo/ acompt, or to Mr. John act? I long to hear of the young Misses recovery, and am,

My Lord,
Your Lo/ most humble and obedient sert,
ROB. GRANT.

Endorsed:—Carberry, 3 Aprile 1752. Then receiv'd from Lord Elchies the within mention'd sum of seventy pounds sterling on account of Robert Grant of Tammore, which I oblidge myself to allow him at accounting; in witness wherof I have written and subscrib'd thir presents date and place foresaid.

JOHN GRANT.

Also in Lord Elchies' writing:—Tammore's ler. 25th March 1752 ordering to pay my son John £70 st. with John's rect. subjoind of 3d Apryll.

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No. I.

ALEXR. GRANT, Edinburgh, to PATRICK GRANT of Pitchaish.[1]

Assured ffrind,

You know I left orders with you to colect as much from your brother Bellnadalloch's tenents as would clear the debt due by your brother to John Innes, writer in Edr, and gett bonds from such off them as wanted money, and lest he be dissapointed off money or securety ffor the whole at this term, thes———are desyreing that upon sight yow call the tenents together, and gett bonds from them ffor not money, untill Mr. Innes' debt be cleared. Faill not as yow would oblidge me, and in caise they reffuse their bonds, lett them be decreited, and the decreit sent or given to Easter Elchies, that it may be sent up heir, and dilligence done on it. Let the bonds be in Easter Elchies' name; and deliver the bonds and money to him also, upon his recept and oblidgement to get the same allow'd by Mr. Innes to me. I am

your loving cousine,

ALLEXANDER GRANTT.

Edr., 14 Nov., 1706.

No. II.

Extract from "Decreit of Exoneration:
Robert Grant ffactor of Ballandalloch
Agst
The Creditors of Ballandalloch."

The saids Lords after consideration had of the said petition and desire thereof by their deliverance thereon dated the 9th day of July 1715 yeares remitted to the Lord Couper in course to audite the ffactor's accompts in order to his exoneration and to bring the compt and reckoning to a close with all convenient dispatch according to which remitt the said affair was upon the

[1]Lord Elchies' uncle and brother of John Roy Grant of Ballindalloch.

12th day of July instant called before the said Lord Couper where both parties having compeared be their respective procurators above named Mr. Patrick Grant advocat as procurator for Robert Grant the ffactor resumed his petition and remitt to the ordinary to the end specified in the bill and insisted that the ordinary might consider of the ffactor's accompts and instructions thereof lying in the clerks hands since the first day of June last which were seen by most or all of the creditors and craved that the ffactor might be exonered of his intromissions for the years mentioned in his said accompts and that the ordinary might modify a sallary suitable to his extraordinary paines anent the ffactor's mannagement of the said estate which is visible to the utility of the creditors not only by making the rents effectuall as the same were payable at the ffactor's entry but likewayes augmenting thereof Whereupon Mr Archbald Ogilvie advocat as procurator for Collonell William Grant creditor on the estate of Ballandalloch acknowledged his sieing and perusing the ffactor's accompts and instructions against which OBJECTED *Primo*—that by comparing the tennents' oaths taken by the ffactor at the commencement of his ffactory and the accompt of rests wherewith he charges himself as due preceeding that time the same falls short as to halfe a boll of coble bear payable by John Mitchell which by the proven rentall of the sale amounts to Two pound one shilling eight pennies *Secundo*—objected against the deductions staited in the severall years discharge made by Easter Elchies that the same was without any warrand *Tertio*—that it did not appear Lues Nairne was creditor on the estate *Quarto*—that there can be no deduction allowed on account of the rents of the lands possest be the comon debitor since he might have been payed thereof by poinding of his effects or doing ultimat diligence by incarceration or removing *Quinto*—that the ffactor was *in mala fide* to staite any sum on accot of the peats forced by the comon debitor from the tennents there being no obligation on the ffactor to satisfy them therefore *Sexto*—that there appears no reason for the doun fall of the wedders cropt 1712 *Septimo*—no instruction produced of the ffactor's doing diligence for the article of rests of Eighty seven pounds for the year 1713 *Octavo*—the article staited to messengers and concurrences are exorbitant *Nono*—that the articles payed to the ground officer and clerk ffor holding of Courts and writing of tacks ought not to be allowed *Decimo*—that by the tennents' oaths taken at commencement of the said ffactory it appears they

had payed considerably of an years rent to fforbes collector of the vaccant stipends without instructing his right of exacting which the ffactor ought not to allow to the tennents fforbes right not being produced. IT WAS ANSWERED be the ffactor's procurator To the First—that the same is only a mistake and that the ffactor would charge himself with that shortcoming To the Second—that there is a depending proces before the Lord Minto on account of deductions retained not only by Easter Elchies but likewayes for the deductions retained by Collonell Grant possessor of the Maines wherein if the ffactor prevaile will charge himself therewith in his next accompt To the Third—that Lues Nairn's interest as creditor is produced in the ranking and the ffactor's decreit against him for the rents was suspended and is presently depending To the ffourth—that the creditors are not ignorant of the methods taken by the comon debitor in retaining his possession and the same is further illustrat by the executions of deforce produced and notwithstanding of the numerous concurrences brought by these messengers yet in an hostile manner resisted, which was all practicable or prestable by the ffactor, and he being dayly afraid of his being ceased or ejected, allwayes kept within doors, having considerable force with him for resisting whereby the mannagement of the ground was neglected, but at last by an extraordinary charge was incarcerat and alimented for some time by the ffactor and thereafter sett at liberty by the magistrats of fforres as appears by an extract of his petition for liberation produced To the ffifth—that the comon debitor and adherents coming out of the house so possessed in a violent manner ceased the tennents' peats and all other their effects they could apprehend which so freighted the tennents that allmost the lands adjacent became waist which putt the ffactor under a necessity of satisfying them, by repairing a part of their loss or allow these lands to become waist which is too well known to the creditors To the sixth—that the falling and rising is no novelty, and what is staited on that account is only about eight pound Scots, and if the ordinary think proper the ffactor will prove the current prices that year, the creditors being at the charges if he prevaile To the seventh—the objection is frivolous the ffactor having charged himself with that article of rests in the subsequent year To the eight—that the messengers knowing the common debitor's manner of defence were obliged to bring considerable numbers of men with them and some of those messengers coming from

Roseshire (those living nearer knowing his humour refusing to adventure) which indeed was not without reasone, he often having endangered their lives with shooting and otherwayes so that these articles must be understood moderat, and the same are well instructed by recepts of the sums staited; To the ninth—that these articles doe not exceed annually thirty pounds Scots, and no heretor could mannage at such an easie rate; To the tenth—that the ffactor has a proces of repetition agst fforbes wherein if he prevaile will add the sums uplifted by him to subsequent years charges but the creditors are not ignorant of fforbess's commission from the Presbytery for uplifting the vaccant stipends which was his title of uplifting, and the same regairding other bounds could not be given up to the tennents of Ballandalloch IT WAS REPLYED be Mr Archbald Ogilvie—that he acknowledged the ffactor's raising the proces mentioned in the debate and insisted that in case of his prevailing he might charge himself with the rents in contraversie, and as to the rent of the comon debitor's possession opponed his objection and remitted the same with the ninth objection to the ordinary's consideration and rather than putt the crers. to expences acquiesced in the article the ffactor being lyable in the double, if afterwards the creditors could make appear the wedders would yeild that year the prices in the rentall IT WAS DUPLYED be the ffactor—that by the instruments produced of the comon debitor's being imprisoned, and the act of his liberation upon the Act of Parliament does beyond all controversie exoner the ffactor that being ultimat diligence and as to the other articles opponed his former answer and likewayes remitted the same to the ordinary's consideration. After which debate the Lord Couper, ordinary in the cause made avisandum therewith and with the ffactor's accompts and instructions to himself and thereafter upon the tuenty third day of July instant his Lordship having caused call the cause again where parties compearing by their respective procurators above named Mr Patrick Grant advocat as procurator for the ffactor resumed the former debate and craved the ordinary might repell the objections and sustaine the articles and declared that the ffactor was willing to pay the ballance as the Lord ordinary should determine IT WAS ANSWERED be Mr Archbald Ogilvie —that he opponed his former objections and further added that the ffactor had not charged himself with annualrents in the tearmes of the Lords act of sederunt and was satisfied the ballance should remaine in the ffactor's hands he being obliged to charge himself

in his subsequent accompts therewith. The forsaid petition with the ffactor's accots and instructions produced and whole debate above written being altogether considered be the saids Lords they ordained the ffactor Robert to add the two pound one shilling and eight pennies ommitted to be charged which was a part of the rests uplifted at his entry ordained the ffactor to charge himself with the deduction staited as retained by Collonell Grant and Easter Elchies in case the ffactor prevaile for these rents and also with what fforbes collector to the Presbytery beis found lyable to repeat of the sums uplifted by him before the sequestration; and further ordained the ffactor to charge himself with the annualrent of the yearly ballances an year after the same fell due; and modified the articles for yearly sallary to Two hundred pounds Scots; and ordained the callcull to be made accordingly of the whole year's intromissions and the ffactor to charge himselfe with the ballance in his subsequent accots; and repelled the haill other objections in respect of the answers and instructions produced as an interloquitur thereanent signed be the Lord Couper ordinary in the cause bears Thereafter and after the said Robert Grant the ffactor had in obedience to the said last mentioned interloquitur reformed his accompts in manner before mentioned and charged himself with annualrents in the tearms of the said interloquitur and the Lord's act of sederunt and added the forsaid article of Two pounds one shilling eight pennies the said affair was upon the tuenty sixth day of July instant again called before the said Lord Couper where parties compearing be their respective procurators the ffactor's procurator resumed the former interloquitur and represented that the ffactor's accompts were reformed in the tearmes thereof and all the ballances for the four years' intromissions with the annualrent yrof as prescribed by the act of sedurent are likewayes staited whereby it appears the totall ballance amounts to Six thousand eight hundred and seven pounds eleven shilling with which the ffactor is willing to charge himself in his subsequent accompts with deduction allwayes of the charges expended and to be expended in expeding and obtaining the present exoneration and craved the ordinary might consider the saids accompts and instructions and exoner accordingly and which reformed accompt of the ffactor's before insert with his first accompts of Charge and Discharge given in and instructions thereof produced together with the interloquitur pronounced on advising the former debates being altogether considered be the saids Lords they sustained the

ffactor's accompts of Charge and Discharge with the instructions thereof and ffand the articles therein sufficiently vouched and alse ffand that after allowance of the articles of Discharge ffor the severall years there remained a ballance due by the ffactor of Six thousand eight hundred and seven pounds eleven shilling Scots out of which ffand the ffactor behooved to have allowance of the sum of One hundred and sixty eight pound two shilling four pennies as the charges and expences debursed and given out be him in expeding and obtaining the present Exoneration which being deduced from the above sum ffand there was still resting and in the ffactor's hands the sum of Six thousand six hundred thirty nine pound eight shilling eight penies and with which sum the ffactor was appointed to charge himself in his next accompts with the @ rents therof from the term of Lambas JajvyC and fifteen years next and EXONERED AND DISCHARGED the said Robert Grant the ffactor of his forsds intromissions the years specified in his saids accompts with the rents therin mentioned at the hands of all concerned PROHIBITING all and sundry from molesting him thereanent at any time coming in respect of his saids accompts and instructions sustained as aforsaid as an interloquitur thereanent signed be the Lord Couper ordinary in the cause this tuenty seventh day of July JajvyC and fifteen years bears And swa the saids Lords gave and pronounced decreit and sentence in the forsaid matter in sustaining modifying ffinding appointing exonering and discharging and alse in ordaining and likewayes in prohibiting and discharging in manner at length before mentioned and ordaine all letters and executorialls requisite to be direct hereupon in forme as effeirs.

No. III.

ROBERT INNES,[1] Elgin, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

I had a lyn from you by Ardnellie[2] on Munday last, and had returned ansr by him, but thought to have been at Elcheis this day, and wrote you from that, wher I will, God willing, be

[1] Perhaps Robert Innes, M.D., Provost of Elgin, 1717-20; 1723-26.

[2] In parish of Rothes.

next week and efter sieing the Lady Elcheis shall apoynt wth you, for if she be not pleased to give my wyfe some longer tyme then Witsunday am resolved to go in to the measures Elcheis himself proposed to me befor his mother in her avn rowme, so yt more trouble on yt head is niedles.

I am,
Sir,
your humble sertt,
Ro: Innes.

Elgin, 2 Decr, 1720.

Endorsed:—To Robert Grant ffactor off Bellindalloch.

No. IV.

Rev. Walter Sime, Minister of Glass, to John Hamilton of Gibston.

Sir,

I was with Baillie Cumming[1] at milne of Cairnborrow Munday last when I gave bill for qt George Mitchel at Rothemay was due his Grace the Duke of Gordon, and at ye same time, according to communing to him, I accepted a bill for two hundred twenty three merks and ane half scots money as ye price of fourty four hides you'r to deliver by my order to ye sd George Mitchel upon my br John Sime[2] mert in Banff his accompt. The bearer hereof brings you yt bill, and please deliver the sd hides to George Mitchel; take his receipt yron obliging him to dress these hides in behalf of my sd brother twixt and ye midle of Sepr next, and

[1]No doubt George Cumming of Recletich, who, between the years 1718 and 1725, is variously described in the MSS. as "Chamberlain of Enzie"; "Off Achnastank, Barron Baily and chamberland of Huntly"; "Chamberlan of Strathbogie"; "Bailie of the Regality of Huntly"; etc. Tammore married his daughter, Margaret, and during the year 1723 Tammore himself acted as "Chamberlain of Huntly"; in one document where he is thus described, George Cumming is called "Bailie of the Regality of Huntly."

[2]He appears to have married a sister of Lord Elchies, and afterwards to have gone to Jamaica. *Vide* Nos. LXIX, LXX and LXXIV, Part I.

yn to deliver them to him or his order, and I shal take care ye bill be punctually pay'd qn it falls due. Ys trouble is offer'd you by,

Sir,
your most humble Servant,
WAL: SIME.

Glass, May 31st, 1722.

Endorsed:—Mr. John Hamiltown[1] of Gibstown at Gordon-castle.

Also:—Mr. Sim's letter and Bill for hyds—44 hyds, 1722.

No. V.

ROBERT GRANT yr. of Lurg,[2] to Mrs. ELIZABETH GRANT of Easter Elchies.

I Robert Grant yor of Lurge grants me to have receiv'd from Elizabeth Grant Ladie Easter Elchies in name and behoof of Mr. Patrick Grant of Easter Elchies, Advocate, her son, and that one account and for ye use of the deceast Patrick Grant of Elon, my brothere his children, the summ of two hundreth merks Scots money, as two years @ rent (viz) from Mar's JajvjjC and twantie two to Mar's JajvjjC and twantie four years inclusive (retention allow'd conforme to law) off the prinll summ of two thousand merks money forsaid resting be the deceast John Grant of Easter Elchies to my said umqll brother be bond, which summ of two hundreth merks money forsaid of @ rent for the terms above speit retention allow'd as said is, I the said Robert Grant hereby exr. and discharge the said Mr. Patrick Grant his airs and successrs thereof, and I oblidge me to warrand and renew thir pntts if neid beis. In wittness wherof I have wtin and subscriv'd the samin att Elchies the third day of Febrie JajvjjC and twantie five years.

ROBERT GRANT.

[1]On 25th September, 1725, John Hamilton was Chamberlain of Strathbogie.

[2]A noted member of the Clan; his portrait is at Castle Grant. *Vide* Dr. William Forsyth's "In the Shadow of Cairngorm," pp. 85-6.

No. VI.

PATRICK GRANT of Tullochgrue[1] to [Mrs. ELIZABETH GRANT of Easter Elchies].

Madam

After giving my best respects to your ladyship, to your sone's lady and children, wishing you all prosperity and long continuance.

Know the other week Delrachnie sold twenty bolls of Elches meal for my use as you'l know by the inclosed precept, which only mentiones oat meal, yet notwithstanding (seeing I was not prestent at the bargan making) I wanted only fourteen bolls of oat meal for my own table and six of housold meal for my servants: I expect your ladyship will be pleased to send the same, minding that for ordinary five firlets of bear meal is still got for the price of ane boll of oat meal, which if your ladyship will comply with will very much oblidge not only my wife, who gives you and family her humble respects, but also,

Madam,
your ladyship's most humble sert,
P. GRANT.

Tulochgrue,
June 13th, 1726.

I am sensible I need not injoyne your ladyship in sending good meal seeing it's for my own use.

No. VII.

Rev. ROBERT DUFF, Minister of Aberlour, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

Understanding you are to be this day in Edenvillie collecting Elches' rents, I have given you the trouble of this to acquaint you that Elches and the oyr heretors have by a late paction bound ymselves and ffactors to pay me yr respective

[1]Son of Patrick Grant of Rothiemurchus (Macalpine); is said to have entered the army; "Memoirs of a Highland Lady," p. 174.

stipends *in cumulo*. You will yrfore either collect ye same wt the rents according to my receits in the tenants' hands, or else appoint one to do it forthwith, for its full time I were payed; besides, I have just now parler use for money; yre is likewise due me half a crown and 2d Scots on each 100 pd valued rent of element money, and Edenvillie being £370 Scots valued rent youll cast yt—order it to be gathered in wt the teynd silver, and cause some person also collect my victual stipend. I expect your positive answer in these things, for if you make any scruple anent ye same, I'll write to Elches, but I hope you will not put me to yt trouble. I am,

Sir,
your most humble servant,
ROBERT DUFF.

Aberlour, 21st Jary, 1727.

No. VIII.

JOHN GRANT, Easter Duthil, to WILLIAM GRANT in Camreach.[1]

Easter Duthell, May 17, 1727.

Sir,

Receive inclosed Lady Elchies' receipt of @ rent. Elcheis' own receipt has fallen by my hands, but you need be in no concern for if I do not find it, I'lle purchase you anoyr from him, which I believe will satisfie you or any else, and am,

Sir,
your humble servt,
JOHN GRANT.

No. IX.

JOHN MACKENZIE of Ardross to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

I have yours with Elchies' inclosed. I am sorie that either of you should be put to so much trouble, and stil the more that I

[1]There is a place of this name in Cromdale parish.

can not now answer his demand, which, if I could, I am under too manie obligations to him not to be franck of this. I have write more fully to himselfe, being all, till I am better prepared, offers to,

Sr,

your affectionat humble servt,

Jo: Mackenzie.

Ardross, 28th Novr, 1727.

No. X.

Patrick Houstoun, Dean,[1] to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dr Sr,

I had the favour of yours desiering me to buy a horse for you. I am sorry that my cousing, Ensign Grant,[2] did not write me some time before the servant came here, for it is not possible to gett a horse such as I could have wishes to have had for you upon such a short warning. I keeped the servant till this day, there being a fair in the neighbourhead. I have bought [a] horse for you at that fair, which I send you by the bearer; he coast eight guines which I shall ask from Elcies when I have occasion to be in Edinbr. I heartily wish the horse may prove right; he is just nou pritty much out of order, being just come from the foge, but I do beleive when hee comes to good keeping he will be a verry beautifull serviceable horse: I am sure he is a young sound horse. If your servants takes care of him to feed him right, and not overfeed him, and give him moderate exercise, I am hopefull he will ansuer your purpose. If I cane serve you in anything in this country, you will do me a great dale of pleasure in commanding,

Sr,

your most humble sertt,

Pat: Houstoun.

Dean, 24 Septbr, 1728.

[1]Perhaps the place of that name near Edinburgh.

[2]Ensign James Grant, natural son of Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch, appointed Ensign of the latter's independent company, 25th December, 1726; mortally wounded in an affray in camp at Ruthven, August, 1731. *Vide* "A Black Watch Episode of the year 1731."

No. XI.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN STEPHEN, sen., Elgin.

Easter Elches,
2d November, 1728.

Sir,

Send me by the bearer four loaves of your sugar, and mark the weight of each loaf one the paper, and so soon as I know the extent of it shall pay you at the rate of nine shilling the pound—the price you demanded—and if the sugar is good, shall get more of it disposed of. I wish you better health, and am,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

On face of letter:—

11p:	9
5p:	7
5p:	3½
6p:	7½
28 :	10:

@ 9d pr pund is £12 : 17 : 4.

Elgin 23d Apr: 1729. Then receved payment of the above sugars and discharges the same and all preceeding demands by me.

JOHN STEPHEN senior.

No. XII.

JOHN GRANT of Dalrachnie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Inverlaidnan, Decer 21st, 1728.

Dear Robert,

James Grant, merchant in Duthell, went to Badenoch Thursday was a fourtnight, and did not return till yesterday; and all the money he has brought with him of Elcheis' meall is £476

Scots. He believes if ffoyness[1] hade come home that he hade gott every farthing of Elcheis' money. Strathmassie[2] promised to send the contents of your own bill in eight or ten days, as did John Clerk the contents of your little bill. I have not as yet gott a farthing from Innereshie[3] of the meal money, but he gave me ten merks of the five pound bill he owed Blairfindie,[4] and keeped the oyr ffour-score for grassing of Coll: Grant's cattle, for which ye have inclosed his receipt.

Duncan McIntosh[5] went to Edr, Friday was a fourtnight, for his money, and called here. He gave me a bill on Evan Baillie[6] for twenty nine pounds seven shilling and sixpence sterll., and a five pound bill of Archd Geddes.[7] He also gave me six pound twelve shillings in money, which I send you by the bearer. I sent these bills to Inverness with Whitrae,[8] and Evan Baillie was not att home, and Archd Geddes told he hade no money; but I'lle send ane express to them Munday next with orders to protest their bills if they do not pay. Whenever I hear of ffoyness coming home, I'lle send to Badenoch. Give my service to the Lady Tommore: I wish her and you a merry Christmess and many good new years, and am sincerely,

d: R:
your own
Jo. Grant.

The species I send you of Elcheis' money is 13 guineas and ane half in gold, £21: 9 sh and 6d star: in silver, and four pence in copper, and £4 in nots. Ye have for your self in money, £6: 12sh: in part paytt of Dun: McIntosh's money.

Endorsed:—Delrachnie's letter anent money sent me in pairt of severall bill I gave him to negotiat for Mr. Pat: Grant and my self. 1728.

[1]This reference is to Macpherson of Phoness in Badenoch. There is also a place called Phoness on the Ballindalloch estate, in Inveravon parish.

[2]Macpherson of Strathmashie.

[3]Macpherson of Invereshie.

[4]Grant of Blairfindy, Glenlivet.

[5]Of Essich. *Vide* No. XLI.

[6]Perhaps John Baillie of Torbreck. *Vide* No III, Part II.

[7]Of Essil.

[8]Perhaps Whitewreath, in parish of Elgin. "John Grant, Whiteraw," occurs in the MSS. in 1740.

No. XIII.

Rev. Hugh Grant, Minister of Knockando, to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dr. Sir,

I have been enquiring as narrowly as I could at some persons anent the stipd. of B————,[1] and can only get this account, that in general they mind that the stipend now pay'd in with their rent was once pay'd as they heard to the minrs. even before the stipd of the Mains was ordered as it is at present, but as to tymes, none of them I have yet met with can be distinct or clear. I have enclosed a receipt for fourty shillings sterling, which is all I shall ask presently in case you be straitned for money, having only some hyred poor people to pay and more lime to buy. I will have use for more very soon to clear my mason of so much,[2] and yrfor expect that you'l endeavour there be no stop in the payt. of the Kirdels stipend. I wish there was a period put to the proportioning the two hundred merks for I can expect none of that money till that is done. I have not yet had use for your timber because the jists are not come. I design Wednesday to Strathspey about that matter; sooner it will be impossible for me to go. I am,

your most humble sert,
Hugh Grant.

Knockando, June 27th, 1729.

Endorsed:—Colonell [*sic*] Grant, Tomoir.

Also by R. G.:—The minister of Knockandow—receipt for £24 of the stipend of Elches—cropt 1728-1729.

[1]Ballintomb of Knockando. *Vide* No. IV, Part II.

[2]From this and Sir Robert Gordon's order following, it would seem that a new manse was erected at Knockando at this time. In the "Statistical Account of Elginshire" (1842), the manse then existing is stated to have been built in 1767.

No. XIV.

Sir ROBERT GORDON, Bart., of Gordonstown to GEORGE KAY.

Edinr, 4 August, 1729.

Mr. Kay,

Please permitt any of the heritors or oyr pariochners of the parioch of Knockando to winn and lead away sclates for ye minister's manse of Knockando[1] out of my sclate quarrie of Dollas; and this shall be your warrand from

your most humble sert,

ROBERT GORDON.

To George Kay, ffactor to Sir Robt Gordon of Gordonstown.

No. XV.

JOHN DINGWALL, Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

Mr. Grant being presentlie hurried, I, at his desire, aquaint that he has retired Mr fforbes's bill payable to Mr. Russell for no more than £90 sterling. He would have sent it you by this po[st], but that he thinks it will come safer by any of the witnesses who are waiting here to depone in the tryall against the Mackintoshes, and who will be ready [to] leave this place next Munday, or the day therafter. There are informations alreadie drawn in that case on both sides, and if I can get coppies of them ere the post goe off, they will be sent inclosed.

[1]The following entry, under date of 10th July, 1758, appears in the "Ballindalloch Estate Accounts":—"To £22. 19. 7 Sterling paid to the Minr of Knockando as Ballindalloch's share of the expence of building a new Kirk." (£275. 15. Scots). This Kirk (which the editor attended when a boy) is a long narrow building with outside stairs to the galleries, and occupies a commanding position upon a rising ground, from which there is a fine view of mountain scenery. A slab over the kirk door bears the text and date:—Rom. X, 14, 15. MDCCLVII. A handsome new manse was built over fifty years ago.

Ringorum is now insisting on the two suspenshons at Robert Leslie's[1] instance against him; the one about the removing has been alreadie called, as will the other about the services, next week. When anie thing materiall happens in either, you shall be aquainted by,

Sir,
your most humble servant,
Jo: Dingwall.

Edinr, 29th Nover, 1729.

P.S.—This letter comes free to your hand it being franked by one of the Clerks to the Post Office.

No. XVI.

Robert Grant of Tammore to John Grant of Gartinbeg.

Tomoir, 27th Decr, 1729.

Sir,

I have been every day expecting payment of your acceptance for Elches' meall. I have now got directiones to pay sundry debts for him, and among the rest a debt due to Easter Duthell[2] of 1000 merks and four or five years' @ rent. If you please to pay him that debt, and take up the bond from him discharged, it shall hold compt to you in the first of the sum you owe by your accepted bill indorsed to me. If you retire the bond, a discharge on the back of it, mentioning the recept of the money from me and asertaining the sum of the @ rents, is necessary for my clearance with Elches. I expect your return by the bearer, and am

Sir,
your most humble sert,
Rob: Grant.

[1] *Vide* No. VI, Part I.

[2] *Vide* No. I, Part II.

No. XVII.

ROBERT GRANT, yr., of Lurg to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sr,

I receiv'd yours, and in answer therto, know that I'me sorie Elchies should offer or order to do anie thing may prove to the detremt of the poor minor my deceast brothere Pat's son. And seing I cannt do anie thing in that affair of my self, wtout the othere friend[s] advice, nor am I resolv'd to madle untill the titles are made, I hope you'll allow time for my aquanting the othere friends, and informing you of there opinion. Wishing you and concerns Ane Hapie and good New Year, I am,

Sr,
your humble sert,
ROBERT GRANT.

Elon, Demr 31st, 1729.

Endorsed:—Lurg's letter refusing his broyr sone's monev. 1729.

No. XVIII.

JOHN CRUIKSHANK of Achmadies to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

Haveing now use for a draught of £5 sterl: at Edr. which I wish would answer ther betuixt and the 29 current, if yow can convenientlie give such a draught it will be a singullar favor to him who is,

Sir,
your oblidged humble servant,
JO: CRUIKSHANK.

Achmades, Jully 16, 1730.

Munday last at the Ladie Achlunkart's buriall, Carnousie, who is a principle manager in Drummies affaires, spok to me to writ to the Laird of Grant to see if he would apoint some gentlemen, on or two, to look to the marches betuixt Achmades and Knocken. If the Laird of Grant is at Bellnadallach, or if yow

have occaision to wait of him, please speak to him on this subject: I own yt I am of opinion the Laird of Grant can loss nothing by such ane apointment, since it is very aparent to all that hes yet seen it, that it belongs to Achmades. I mean the fold they pretend to.

The 5£ is to my son at Edr.

Endorsed:—Achmadies' letter for a bill of £5 sterling drawn by me on Mr Pat. Grant payable at ten days sight to his sone dated the 16th Jully, 1730.

No. XIX.

ROBERT GRANT, yr., of Lurg to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Castle Grant, 15th Decembr, 1730.

Sir,

I acknowledge that you have payed me two thousand merks of prinll contained in a bond granted by Capt. John Grant of Ester Elches to the deceast Patrick Grant of Ellon, my brother, with sex hundred and eight merks three shiling and sex pennies as the @ rent resting on the said prinll sume from the terme of Mertimess javȳC and tuenty four to the date hereof, and as I have delivered up to you the said prinll bond with the discharge therof by William Grant, son of the said Patrick Grant with consent of his currators for the behooff of Mr. Patrick Grant of Elches, and that my last discharge to Elches is not at hand, I promise, when the said discharge is seen, that I shall repeill any @ rents that I shall be found to have received more then wes really dew (if any be), because I have a letter of yours off this date promising to pay me any @ rents that may be dew to me on the said bond. I am,

Sir,

your wery humble sert,

ROBERT GRANT.

No. XX.

JOHN DINGWALL, Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

I had a letter some time agoe from Ardnellie,[1] covering the instrument taken by Joseph Leslie agt Ringorum upon his overgiving his old possession, and ane extract of the tack betuixt him and my master[2] of his new possession. These papers will be of use in the proces of removing in case Ringorum[3] will think fit furder to insist in it, and as to the other proces, Mr. Grant, as I alreadie wrote you, is still of opinion that Leslie should confirm. The bearer brings with him the half rimm of paper you wrote for. I am, on haste,

Sir,
your most humble servant,
JO: DINGWALL.

Edinr, 18th June, 1731.

No. XXI.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON,[4] Elgin.

Elches, 18th March, 1732.

Sir,

Send two dozen bottles of your ordinary claret by the bearer for Mr. Patrick Grant of Elches use: I shall not doubt but it will be good of its kind, and I must beg you'l take the trouble to cause one of your serts buy three pecks of good flowr and cause bake one of them in plain loaff bread, and cause the baker have it ready on Thursdy fornoon when I shall send for it; and send the oyr two pecks by the bearer who has money to pay for the flowr and for the baking the peck. And if their is any good English hopes in town, send two pound of them for which the

[1]John Leslie.
[2]Mr. Patrick Grant.
[3]Robert Grant.
[4]Provost 1734-7.

bearer will also pay, and let me know how soon I can send for some of your strong wine. I ask pardon for giving you a trouble that lys so much out of the way of your business, and am,

Sir,
your most oblidged humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

At foot of letter:—Elgin 20th March 1732. Received be me George Denn in Westertoun of Danaleith from John Robertson mert. in Elgin two dozen bottles of ordinary clarett and two pounds best English hops which I hereby oblige my self to deliver to Mr Grant of Tommore. As witnes my hand place and day forsaid.

GEORGE [G. D.] DENN.
His mark.

No. XXII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, 21st Aprill, 1732.

Sir,

Mr Grant of Elches and his Lady came home late last night, and are perfectly pleased with your wine: he desires to know the price of both kinds. As you'l get ready money I hope you'l take as moderat profit as you can, and you'l get all their litle change. The baking of the bread pleas'd so weell that I must give you the trouble to cause bake and send by the bearer anoyr peck flour the same way; hope you'l excuse the trouble, and that you'l be so good as to send one of your serts to buy half a stone candle—a quarter of the best and greatest candle, and the oyr quarter of small candle for serts—for a tryall. I shall pay you for . . . two dozen wine so soon as I know the price, as I shall for the things now called for, and am,

Sir,
your oblidged and most humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

Endorsed by J. R.:—Missive—Robert Grant of Tammore—conforme to qch sent him 8 lb candle and a peck of flour bakt in four anker stocks—22 Ap: 1732.

No. XXIII.

ROBERT TAYLOR, Easter Elchies, to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, Apr 30th, 1732.

Sir,

By Elches' order to me you are to be troubled with the causing bake ane other peck of flour in bread as the last, and likevise to send ane other peck of flour unbaked, and a sixpence vorth of best barlie in toun which the bearer vill pay, and it is desired you send out ane acount vhat is resting, and you vill be payed vith the first ocaision—no more at present but rests

your verie humbl sert,

ROB: TAYLOR.

No. XXIV.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, 10th May, 1732.

Sir,

Receave from the bearer four pound two shillings and four pence, which is the contents of Elches' acount excepting the price of the botles which are to be return'd. The Lady[1] is not at all desoblidged—on the contrary, she is exceedingly pleased with everything you sent only that she grudges the price of the wine—and her reason for calling for her act is yt she likes short acounts best, and bids me make her apologie for giving you so much trouble in calling for things that ly out of the way of your business, and hopes if any of her serts have delivered their commissiones in a wrong maner that you will not impute it to her—This at her desire is from,

Sir,

your oblidged and most humble sert,

ROB: GRANT.

You have inclos'd a 20 sh: note, and the bearer has £3: 2: 4. Send me a quar good paper for qch the bearer will pay; return the act discharg'd.

[1]Mrs. Patrick Grant.

No. XXV.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, 19th May, 1732.

Sir,

Send by the bearer for Elches' use three dozen bottles of the wine that you sent here formerly, which you call the ten pound claret, and put it to Elches' acount. I am,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

Send also halff a stone small candle and a peck of the bran or cleats of white.

No. XXVI.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, 22d June, 1732.

Sir,

The Lady Elches wants a stone weight of small candle, and desired me give you the trouble to send them by the bearer and they shall be payd by,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

Send only half a stone candle.

At foot:—Elgin 22d June 1732. Received be me William Steuart in Hillhall of Easter Elchies from John Robertson, merchant in Elgine, by order of the above letter ten pounds white candle which I oblige myself to deliver to Robert Grant of Tammore—as witnes my hand place and day forsaid.

WILLIAM STEUART.

No. XXVII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, 3d August, 1732.

Sir,

Send by the bearer for Elches' use a boll of your best malt for a tryall, and half a boll of beans for horses, and put both to his acount. I am,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

Send also a gross of your best corks and four ells of tykin at or about fourteen pence the ell.

Endorsed:— Elgin 4th August 1732. Received be me George Davidson in Rothes from John Robertson mert in Elgin, one boll malt, half an boll of beans, four yards tyken and one gross corks for accompt the Laird of Elchies, and which I oblige myself to deliver to him—as witnes my hand place and day forsaid.

GEORGE DAVIDSON.[1]

No. XXVIII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, August 15th, 1732.

Sir,

Send by the bearer two bolls of your malt, and if you could send a quair or two of good ordinary strong wreating paper, and put both the malt and paper to Elches' acount, it shall be payd by

your most humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

At foot:—Elgin, 15th August 1732. Received be me George Gordon in Dindurcas from John Robertson, merchant in Elgin, two bolls malt and two quares paper conform to the above letter for accompt of and which I oblige myself to deliver to Elchies—as witnes my hand place and day forsaid.

GEORGE GORDON.[2]

[1] *Vide* No. LIII.

[2] George Gordon of Fifth part; married Jean Gordon, 23rd June, 1724.

No. XXIX.

ROBERT TAYLOR, Easter Elchies, to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elchies, Septr 15, 1732.

Sir,

I am ordered by my master to aquaint you to send out ane other boll of your best malt for his use, and I hope you vill send it good and dispatce the bearer, and oblide

your affectionate frind,

ROB: TAYLOR.

At foot:—Elgin, 16th Septr. 1732. Received be me Alexr Duncan in Easter Elchies from John Robertson, mert in Elgin, one boll of malt conform to the above letter for accot of the Laird of Elchies, and which I oblige myself to deliver to Robt Taylour—as witnes my hand place and day forsaid.

A. D.

No. XXX.

JOHN GRANT of Dalrachnie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Robart,

Receiue from the bearer four guines mentioned in the inclosed leter. Your chiefe intreats of you to be here Munday morning precisly.

I spock to Mr. Steuins[1] yesterday whoe is content to take all Elchies his meal if he will sell it at nin shills per boll, payable betuixt this and Crismas. Mr. Steuins desairs you may com to him any day you please, and yt you'll get bill for all he is deue you.

Your marchint Duncan Mckintosh[2] and Crubin[3] did com north, and haiue gon south again with 700 coues. Let me knoue when I shall send for the whit win, and I ame sincerly,

dr Robart,

your oun,

Castle Grant, Septr 28th, 1732. JO: GRANT.

[1] *Vide* Note to No. XXVII, Part I.

[2] Of Essich. *Vide* Note to No. XXXII, Part I.

[3] Donald McPherson of Crubin. *Vide* "Scottish Notes & Queries," Vol. VIII, 2nd Series, p. 165.

No. XXXI.

ROBERT TAYLOR, Easter Elchies, to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elchies, Octr 1st, 1732.

Sir,

You are to send out vith the bearer by my master's orders to me three bolls of malt, and he intreats you vill send good because it is for a particular use. The bearer hath monie for a pound of small twist tobacoe which you may cause your servant get good for him, and a quair of eight penc paper—no more at present but rests

your afectionat frind,

ROB: TAYLOR.

You may cause your servant get four sheet of stampt paper for qch he hath monie likewise.

At foot:—Elgin, 3d October 1732. Received be me James Taylour in Kirtoun of Dindurcas from John Robertson merchant in Elgin three bolls malt for accompt of the Laird of Elchies conform to the above letter; as witnes my hand place and day forsaid.

JAMES TAYLOR.

No. XXXII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, Octr 4th, 1732.

Sir,

I'me asham'd to give you so much trouble about things you have no consern in, but the Lady Elches has got such a carrecter of you that she does not think she can get any thing right out of your town if you doe not send it. She wants just now a firlot of the best flowr, and has sent four shillings to pay for it, and as she is quit out of flowr wants a sixpence worth of the best loaff bread because she expects some company sooner than she can get any bread after the flour comes. The bearer will also pay for the bread, and she intreats of you to send her eight pound weight of the best English hopes, and if their are non that's very good, not to send any: the hopes will be pay with the rest of

her acount, which may draw out and send with your conveniency, and the money shall be sent you. Cause your sert get me half a pound small twist tobaco; the bearer will pay for it. I am,

Sir,

your oblidged and most humble sert,

ROB: GRANT.

Endorsed by J. R.:—Missive—Robert Grant of Tammore—conform to qch sent 8 lb of hopes to Elchies 5th Octr 1732; returned of the hopes 5lb ¼, 6th Octr.

No. XXXIII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN ROBERTSON, Elgin.

Elches, 6th Octr, 1732.

Sir,

The Lady Elches has taken only a part of the hopes, and return'd the rest, which you may weight, and charge to your acount. Send by the bearer half a boll malt for the Lady Elches' use, and give Bogginduie[1] yor asistance to provide an emty hogshead that ther was no ale in and which has been latly full of some kind of white wine, if it can be got. Bog: will pay you Colly's two dozen wine. I am,

Sir,

your most humble sert,

ROB: GRANT.

No. XXXIV.

ALEXR. GRANT, yr., of Dalrachnie, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Culnakyle,[2] 12th Apryle, 1733.

Dr Sir,

My Lord Elchies' brewing fatt goes down upon your timber; the man who made it is gone along to disjoine it, because

[1]Robert Grant of Boginduie, parish of Aberlour.

[2]Dalrachnie the younger appears to have resided at Coulnakyle about this period. In the "Ballindalloch Estate Accounts" for the year 1732 is the entry:—"To half a hougshead claret which the Coll. got out of Culnekyle from Delrachny younger £45 (Scots)."

of the narrowness of the door of the brewhouse, and the bignes of ye fatt; and to joine it againe; the price he asks is tuenty merks. He is afraird to let any other couper touch it, which makes him goe down with it. I am,

dr Sir, yours,

ALEXR. GRANT.

No. XXXV.

FRANCIS SCOTT,[1] Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Edr: 19 July 1733.

Sir,

I gott from my Lord Elchies tuo bills drawn by Mr. Lewis Chapman, one upon Joseph Bell writer in this place for 10£ ster: and anoyr upon Mr William Selkrig, merct in Glasgow for 15£ ster: both payable to yow and indorsed by yow to me. As for the ferst I was with Mr Bell yesterday, who has promised against Saturday either to accept or give me a reason why he will not; and for the other, I have sent it to Glasgow to be presented to Mr Selkrig, and I expect return against Saturday nixt, and shall nixt post accquaint yow what I have done anent them; and if they be not duely honoured, your orders that yow write anent them shall be obeyed. My Lord and my Lady and children are all uell. I am,

Sir,
your most humble servt,

FRANCIS SCOTT.

P.S.—If I gett payt of their bills, let me know whether I am to pay in the money to my Lord Elchies here, or if it is to be remitt to yow.

F. S.

[1] John Grant of Delnabo in a letter to Tammore, dated 5th January, 1744, refers to "Francis Scott, Lord Elchies' man."

No. XXXVI.

FRANCIS SCOTT, Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

My Lord Elchies shoued me a letter from you this afternoon, but the tuo inclosed hornings were signet in the forenoon, which if I had known sooner expences might have been saved to Mr Chapman. You have also inclosed the tuo prinll bills, and the tuo regrat protests thereon, so yow may either make use of the hornings or not as yow think proper. Let me know by a line from yow if they come safe to hand.

My Lady Elchies has been seized with a sore throat, and she was both let blood of and blistered for it, and is now better (blessed be God). Miss Peggie had the same distemper, but is very uell now. My Lord, and the rest of the children are all uell. I do not as yet here when my Lord designs to go north. I am,

Sir,
your most humble servtt,
FRANCIS SCOTT.

Edr: 9th August 1733.

Note of the expences given out in doing dilligence agt Mr Leuis Chapman:—

	Scots £	sh	d
To protesting the 2 bills for not acceptance -	1	4	0
To the postage of a letter to Glasgow and from it when the bill was protested agt Mr Selkrig	0	4	0
To regrating the 2 protests in the books of session - - - - - - - -	3	6	8
To raising 2 hornings thereon - - -	5	16	0
	10	10	8

No. XXXVII.

Sir JAMES GRANT of Grant to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

You knew noe doubt what of the Barrons we have here, qch with what others are to join us, gives us the majoritie. We

are certainly told that the oyr syd have gott all the captions they can to be execut against our ffriends. We have about £600 sterl: to free them, but that we be not affronted and that we as farr as possible pay there demands, I earnestly entreat you'l exert your selfe to the outmost in procureing what money you can with you, either Lord Elchies' rents, ore if my Nephew Sandie has any; and whatever you can fynd shall be payd the nixt day after the election is over, for my son has Lachlan Grant comeing North with £600 more from the Bank. Pray try Knockandow and all you can think off, and run ane express on receipt of this to John Cruickshank to do all he can; your particular care and dilligence in this our strait will singularlie obliedge,

dr Robert,
yours,
Ja: Grant.

11 May 1734 past 4 afternoon.

Endorsed:—To Robert Grant of Tommore—
heast— heast—

Also by R. G.:—Sir Ja: Grant's Letter of the 11th May asking the use of some money, and I sent him £27 sterling upon the 19th of sd mo/ by Bogindue. 1734.

No. XXXVIII.

Robert Grant, Conrack, to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Conrack, 13 May, 1734.

Sir,

Being informed by Achoynonie that you had use for some money, and that I had lyeing by me seventeen pounds Sterling money which I was to give out Wedensday nixt, I shall be glad it can be of any use to you Please write me if it comes safe to your hand. I am,

Sir,
your most humble servt.
Rot. Grant.

No. XXXIX.

JAMES ALLAN to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

. . . . 1734.

. . . .

I expected to have heard from you before this time. I have sent this express to know what is to be done in my affair. In case my Lord Elchis incline it, I am very willing that the principal shall still continue in his hands: But I depended upon you for the anual rents; please let me know your mind by the bearer. I am,

dear Sir,
your most humble and most obliged servant,
JAS: ALLAN.

No. XL.

ALEXR. STEUART of Lesmurdie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Tininver, Octr 20, 1735.

Sir,

Att my Lord Braco's desire I ought to have been with you this day at the Presbitry of Aberlour holden at Rothess, to have concurred with you in your protest agt Mr Dalrupel youngar[1] his being settled as a collig but as helper to his father conform to my Lord Elchies' ordors to you, qch my Lord Braco's ordors was to me to concurr with, and nothing els, as Mr Duff, one of the members of the sd reverent Presbetry heired him give me. So that, I being indisposed, and doctors with my son and me at the time, I intreat you please act and doe in my vice for my Lord Braco, in the same terms you doe for my Lord Elchies, qch I'm hopfull the reverent Presbitry will alow of, since it was not possibel for me to atend. And your complyance in this will be a favor done my Lord Braco and him who is,

Sir,
your most humbel Servant,
ALL: STEUART.

[1]Robert Dalrymple, son of the Rev. David Dalrymple, Minister of Dundurcas.

Endorsed:—To Mr Grant of Tomore Esqr for pntt att Rothess—

In heast.

Also by R. G.:—Lesmurdy's letter desiring me to enter a protest agt Mr Dalrumple's setlement as his fayr collegue in Dundurcas be Lo/ Braco's . . . 1735.

No. XLI.

DUNCAN MACKINTOSH of Essich to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Achterblair, 15 Decr, 1735.

Sir,

I wa'd have accquented yow or goan your lengh as I promist you in my last ffrom Edinr but that I have not your money to be given yow. I hope you'll not take it amiss that I did not accept your draught to my Lord Elchess: the reason was that I wa'd not geat eight dayes delay. I did resolve to have payed yow at this tyme but our merkets did not answer, so I hope you'll be so good as not to give my bond to his Lordship, nor make anie other use of it furder then keep it till Junn or July nixt, and then draw on mee at Edinr when God willing I'le take cair to honour your draught. Had they given mee Candlesmess, I had accepted the bill. As yow have been frindlie and kindlie hithertoo, I once more intreat your patience, tho I own its presuming too much on your goodness. Your complyance will furder obliedge

your aff. humble servant,

DUN. MACKINTOSH.

P.S.—I propost in this cuntrie to geat a pound or a merk of discount of each beast as realie I wanted it, but Laird of Grant having griped the money at Edinr, and my good frind Dalrachnie being ill, the divill a fardin.

Endorsed by R. G.:—Duncan McIntosh letter and registrat bond and horning agt him. 1735.

No. XLII.

FRANCIS SCOTT, Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Edr, 30 Janry, 1736.

Sir,

My Lord Elchies desires me to accquaint yow that he had receaved the gold and bank notes and Capt. Geo. Grant's[1] bill extending the said gold bank notes and bill to £331 : 2 : 6 st.; as also he receaved the bill drawn by Mr Rutherford[2] on John Gordon mercht in this place, and Mr Gordon accepted the same, and is to pay it to morrow. He wou'd have payed it this day, but the new bank was not open, being a holy day.

As for Grant of Auchynonie,[3] it seems he is not come to toun as yet; at least if he be, my Lord has not seen him, so that his Lop has not gott the bill or the money yow wrote to him about. My Lord wou'd have wrote to yow himself by the post, but being to send Ballnadaloch's bill which he took up from the bank,[4] thought it safer to be sent by the bearer who brought up your letter. My Lord and my Lady and family are all well. I am,

Sir,
your most humble servtt,
FRANCIS SCOTT.

P.S.—I gave out for regrating Duncan McIntosh bond in the bookes of session - - - - - - £1 13 4d Scots
and for raising horning theron - - - 2 18 0

£4 11 4

so you may order any that does for yow to pay it to me.

[1] Captain George Grant of Culbin.

[2] Thomas Rutherford. *Vide* No. CXXX (1736).

[3] *Vide* No. V, Part II.

[4] *Vide* No. CXXX (1736).

No. XLIII.

FRANCIS SCOTT, Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Edinr, 20 ffeb., 1736.

Sir,

My Lord Elchies desired me to accquaint yow that he had receaved £49 st. bill drawn by Capt. George Grant[1] upon Mr ffury.[2] As for the 72£ st. yow wrote to my Lord anent, Lachlan Grant informs me John Baillie wou'd not accept it, and that ther was a protest taken agt him and dilligence done upon it, but he thinks that it will be payed. My Lord and Lady and family are all very well. I am,

Sir,
your most humble servtt,
FRANCIS SCOTT.

No. XLIV.

ALEXANDER GRANT of Ballindalloch to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Elchies, May ye 6th, 1736.

Sir,

Having in August last borrowed from ye bank (besides anoyr greater sum some time agoe payed) one hundered and fifty pounds ster: for which my Lord Advocate[3] and my Lord Elchies accepted jointly with me[4] a bill payable sixty days after date for one hundered and fifty one pounds five shill: and which sum with four pounds ster. of interest my Lord Elchies has payed to ye bank upon the twenty third day of Aprile last by granting his

[1]Captain of the "Grant" Independent (Black Watch) Company.

[2]Peregrine Fury, Agent to the Independent Companies

[3]Duncan Forbes of Culloden.

[4]*Vide* No. CXXX (1736).

own bill to the bank payable sixty days after yt date for one hundered and fifty one pounds five shill. ster. being one hundered and fifty pounds ster. of the sums in ye sd former bill and one pound five shill. ster. for ye sd sixty days' interest, and by paying to them five pounds five shill. sterling as ye remainder of ye sd former bill and interest yreof; and my Lord Elchies having now deliver'd up to me and discharged my sd bill to the bank, I have for his reimbursement of this date drawn a bill upon you payable to him on ye twenty second of June next (on which day ye bill granted by him to ye bank falls due) for one hundered and fifty one pounds five shill. sterline, which I entreat you doe accept, and I likewise desire yt you'll repay him ye five guineas payed by him to the bank over and above ye sd bill; and although you have not at present any of my cash in your hands, nor probably will not have when ye sd bill falls due, yet I hope you'll duly honour ye same, at least as soon as Lord Elchies shall find it necessary to call for it; and should you for yt end be oblidged even to borrow ye money, yet I promise that you shall sustain no loss, and oblidge me not only to repay you the principall but any interest yt shall grow due, or to allow ye same out of any intromissions yt you shall have out of my effects.

I am,
Sir,
your most humble servt,
Alexr. Grant.

Endorsed:—Letter—Alexr Grant to Robert Grant, anent a bill drawn on him payable to Lord Elchies. 1736.

No. XLV.

John McPherson, Barrackmaster at Ruthven, to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Ruthven, Novr 6th, 1736.

Dr Sir,

I hade yours yesternight by David and John McAllisters; I must own I was a little surprised I did not hear soonner from you. I hade no malt this twenty dayes past till by chance I gott two

bolls Tuesday last; I gave nine merks and ane half to David being I think his malt tolerable good and not ground, but gave only nine merks to John which I did not reckon so good, and was ground, which is a dissadvantage to the buyer: they hade both but about three bolls and 1 firlott. As for the Strudders[1] malt, I'm affraid of their measure in caice they were not bound to give me my own measure, which all that comes from Speyside give, my firlott being reasonable and still answered with the Ballindalloch measure. In caice wee found it answered better than the malt wee ordinarly gett, I would be content to have two or three bolls of it on the condition that I would gett my measure from them, but not otherwise, for I hear their own measure is bade, and though I pay nine merks and ane half for malt here unground, when I consider the trouble of sending secks to receave it especialy when I can gett but small quantitys at once, I think it's near as cheap as my own sending secks to receav it and carrying it from Culnakyle.[2] David and John promises in a month hence to come with six bolls, and if you'l send Robert Taylor's[3] four bolls, I beleiv theyle be no waite whatever better than theirs, but their bound to make very good else I'm not to take it, so that you may send Robert Taylor's as soon as you please: the carryers needs not be a night's expence but ane being theyle be ane night with myself, therfor I think, when I have their 6 bolls with Robert Taylor's 4 bolls, and four or five bolls more that some others are to bring me from Kirdells if I shall want, that Ile be servd till the spring that you'l cause make of your own bear ten or twelve bolls that will be worth while to send secks to receave it. As for the Strudders malt, I think you need not trouble yourself about it unless you understood it was very good and that they would uphold my measure. You may give the bearers strict injunctions if they make any for me to take care it be good, and tell them not to faill again the time they engaged; and you'l send Robert Taylor's as soon as you cann—yet if it be inconvenient for you, I think ill to putt you to the trouble, being I find you act the same as foremerly, without any profit your own way: you may writt me by the post how you approve of what I have said.

[1]The property of Struthers in Kinloss parish was purchased by Colonel William Grant of Ballindalloch about 1730. Tammore was factor to the Lairds of Ballindalloch.

[2]In parish of Abernethy.

[3]*Vide* Nos. XXIII, XXIX and XXXI.

I hade a letter from the Brigr[1] last post; he was pleas'd tell me that on account of what I wrott him on that subject, that he would deall with Elchies if he sold him at a merkat price, which were his words, so that I hope wee shall gett them cemented once yet, at least I should wish it. With my service to yourself, my worthy landladdy and Willy, is all from

dr Sir,

yours &c,

JOHN MCPHERSON.

No. XLVI.

FRANCIS SCOTT, Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Edinr, 3d March, 1737.

Sir,

My Lord Elchies desir'd me to accquaint you that he receaved your letter with a bill inclos'd drawn by Capt. George Grant upon Mr ffurry for £30 sterl, which his Lop/ gave into the New Bank and gott the money for it; and upon Wedsenday last he sent me to James Grant[2] with the said £30 st. which I delivered to him and gott his receipt upon the foot of your letter to my Lord. Both my Lord and Lady are in toun, and are in good health, and all the children are well. I am,

Sir,

your most humble servtt,

FRANCIS SCOTT.

Endorsed by R. G.:—3d March. ffrancis Scot's letter acknowledgeing that Lo/ Elches got £30 sterling pr Capt. Grant's bill payable to me indors'd to his Lo/, and that he gave the money to James Grant, writer in Edr—1737.

[1]General Joshua Guest, Barrack Master General in Scotland.

[2]James Grant of Delnabo, Writer in Edinburgh.

No. XLVII.

ROBERT GRANT of Boginduie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Bogenduy, 29 August, 1737.

Sir,

The bearer hes got a boll of meal, but ye can adventur to draw for no more and think that the girnell of Elches can pay it; ffor as ye desired I saw Sanders Grant[1] yester-night, and besydes the 37 sold by Delrachny[2] to Belnespick[3] and some oyer, Sanders himself hes given out eleven, and that wt Achter's ten ye are to make up, and nine that I have sold, besides six to the Mrs. of Rudrie[4]—if ye give it—will leave you as poor of meal as I believe you'll inclyn. But I seen by answer of Elches's from the L. of Grant that he is left to sell his fearins himself, and as you are goeing to Badenoth, if any bargain offers, ye may dispose of forty bolls even to the Badenoth term, only acquaint me how soon ye can if ye chance to make bargain; and if you'll not serve the Mrs of Rudrie in the six bolls that she's falln short, acquaint me p. first occasion that it may provoyd whyl it's in the country, and I am,

Sir,
your most hull servt,
Ro: GRANTT.

No. XLVIII.

Rev. GEORGE GRANT, Minister of Boharm, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I'm much surprized if Lord Elchies consulted you in the matter that you could have allowed such a letter to be sent us.

[1]Probably Alexander Grant, Hillockhead, Tammore's brother-in-law.

[2]Alexander Grant.

[3]William Mackintosh.

[4]*Vide* Note to No. VII, Part I.

For my part I know of nothing I ever did that could tempt his Lop/ to let me cut as dressed in a fool's cap for such triffles as were, I may safely say, below his Lop's notice; and whatever his elevation may be, I can't think it gives him right to insult any one, much less one acting by the authority of a Judicature by law established. I can't be so insensible as to omitt signifying to his Lop how egregiously I think myself abused. I'll be glade to know from you what might have realy been the matter. I am

still yours,

GEO. GRANTT.

Dundurcass, Sep. 13th, 1738.

No. XLIX.

JOHN GRANT, younger, of Easter Elchies, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sr,

I wrote you some time ago in what condition my affairs were, and I must own I expected an answer sooner, since I always reckon'd you one of my best friends who would not only be glad to see me in a right way again, but likewise do what you could to bring that about. But mama show'd me a letter you had wrote her where you exceeding kindly offer'd to free me from all my difficulties and run the risque yourself of losing so much, which I assure [you] gave me a great deal of pleasure, since I did not think I had a friend in the world would do so much for me; and mama assur'd me at ye same time that papa would by no means allow you be a looser on my account, for he intended to pay every thing himself very soon. You know very well that thanks is all the poor recompence I can give you for your great kindness, which however, I assure you, is very sincere, and I wish it may ever be in my power to serve you or yours, till which time I shall always reckon myself greatly in your arears. I am, dr Sr,

your much oblig'd humble sert,

JOHN GRANTT.

Shank, Septr 16, 1738.

No. L.

Rev. George Grant, Minister of Boharm, to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Boharm, Septr 24, [1738].

Dr Sir,

I have your letter, which I think contains just enough thoughts of the subject of my former to you. I don't wonder you understood it not; it was wrote in great hurry, and while I was out of humour upon the subject. The whole intent of it was to know from you if my Lord Elchies really meant or not to expose me in parlar by his letter to us. As to this, you have been so good as satisfy me. The cooler reflexions I had myself since meeting of our Pby, made me hope that his Lop/ has supposed the letters that were sent him, to have been wrote, signed, and dispatched all in presence of Pby—and therefor, that all the ommissions were chargeable not more on the subscriber than upon all the rest—In this view I have no special concern, nor more reason to be disoblidged than the rest. But then as the fact was otherwayes—that the writeing and dispatching of the letters were committed to me, and were signed by me not as in presence, but as by order of Pby—whatever blunders were found in them rebounded only on me, and the takeing notice of them to the Pby—as his Lop/ does twice or thrice in his letter—looked as if intended to expose me to presbyterial censure. This raised my resentment the more, the more I was conscious to myself of never so much as intending any injurious thing to him, but to contrary was ready allwayes to show him all the respect and honor my situation gave me opportunity of discovering—So I thought it would have been more humane in his Lop/ to have corrected all the great mistakes I was guilty of, either by a letter to myself, or, if he was not to give me that honor, the thing might only have been told to you, without exposing me in the face of a Judicature for so insignificant triffles. My letter forsooth wanted date—and

was not addressed. What a mighty matter had it been in his Lop/ to have supplyed all that! But it seems he only wanted some colourable pretence to send back the Pby's letter to teach them manners, that hereafter they may not put him upon any of their little jobbs. As far as I can have interest, we shall doe our best to take the hint, tho' I can never help thinking that it could hardly ever be thought presumeing too much upon our interest in his favour to ask only his good offices in behalf of his own tennants.

That my letters wanted date, was only oweing to this, that after it was wrote, I keept it by me some time, to have opportunity of showing Laird of Grant and you what was in them before I should send them off.

The paragraph about Rot. Dalrymple[1] gave me very little concern; all things considered, that was certainly the smoothest part of the letter.

Upon the whole I offer my humble thanks to you for kind advice—His Lop/ shall have no feighting bout of my procureing. I have been very angry wt myself, that I was not more master of my passion, and frequently wished that Parson Frazer,[2] as more wise than I, had keept my letter from you. But I see 'tis no loss to be known to such a friend even in all their weaknesses.

I am, wtt all affn, dr Sr,

yours,

GEO. GRANTT.

[1] *Vide* Note to No. XL.

[2] Rev. Alexander Fraser, A.M., was an alumnus of the University of King's College, Aberdeen, where he obtained his degree in 1706. He was "Highland Bursar" to the Presbytery of Haddington; was licensed by that Presbytery 10th March, 1713, and ordained 13th September same year. Mr. Fraser was Minister of Alvie during the Rising of 1715, and in the Minute of the Kirk Session, of date 13th May, 1716, it is declared that "there was no possibility of keeping Session in this Paroch all the last Session until the Rebellion was quelled"—Mr. Fraser, it is added, "being often oblidged to look for his own safety." Mr. Fraser was translated to Inveravon on 26th April, 1721. Alexander Macpherson's "Glimpses of Church and Social Life in the Highlands." Mr. Fraser died 13th February, 1752, aged about 86. Shaw's "Moray," Vol. III, 377.

No. LI.

JOHN GRANT of Ballimore[1] to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Belimore, 7th Decr, 1738.

Dr Sir,

I had yours only yeasterday by reason I was from home, and have communicate the same to Toberay,[2] who tolld me will be with you or ten acclook to morrow.

I am satisfyed to take the Elchies bear in the terms you writt me of, all except as to the carriage, which you know is but two miles furder off then the boat of Cromdell, so that I expect you'll allow them carry it that two milles, which is the ordinary place they deliver all your fairms that you send to Badneoch. Therefore I hope you'll give me the same justice, by which means this will oblidge me take your haill bear not exceeding thirty bolls, so that Ile depend on it, and buy noe more, but I still refferr my self to you for the differrance of the carrage betwixt Cromdell and Belintome, and I am, one heast,

dr Sir,
yours &c,
JOHN GRANT.

Endorsed by R. G.:—John Grant Bellimore's letter of the 7th Der:, accepting of Lo: Elches' bear not exceeding 30 bolls to be carryd to Cromdell.

No. LII.

FRANCIS SCOTT, Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Edinr, 2d August, 1739.

Sir,

My Lord Elchies receaved yours Tuesday last with the bill drawn by Messieurs McGeorge & Tod upon William Hog

[1]He is described in the MSS. as "chamberlain of Strathspey"; and in a letter to Tammore, dated 5th February, 1736, he wrote, "my uncle, Dalrachny, is very bad": this reference is to John Grant of Dalrachnie, who died about that date. *Vide* No. XXXIII, Part I.

[2]In Parish of Abernethy.

mert in this place, for £72 st, and the receipt by Mr McPherson for the 200 bolls of meal. My Lord wou'd have writt to yow himself, but being the last day of the session had not time, and your friend Capt. Grant of Balnadalloch din'd with him, and my Lord is to write and answer the rest of your letter nixt post. I gott not the bill accepted by Mr Hog till yesterday. I know Mr McGeorge, and I assure yow his bill is good if it were for £1000 st.

I am surpriz'd that ther is such a drought with yow, ffor ther has not been a summer for severall years past that we have had more rain in [than] this, ffor it is never 24 hours fair; and we will have a very late harvest, ffor ther will be no corn or other grain cutt here for this fourtnight to come. My Lord and my Lady and children are all in good health. I was last week with Miss Peggy at Moffat, who is to make use of the minerall waters there, she being very much troubled with a pain in her stomach. I am,

Sir,
your most humble servtt,
FRANCIS SCOTT.

No. LIII.

NAMES of certain TENANTS on LORD ELCHIES' ESTATES.

28 August 1739.

Sacks out of Edinvilly.

2 Allexr Proctor
2 Isobell Gib
2 Wm. Roy
2 Peter Wright
2 Jo Donaldson
2 Allexr Donaldson
4 Will McConachy[1]
2 James Mill
2 Robert Donaldson
3 Jo Chambers

[1]In 1744 John McKonochie in Nethertown of Edinvilly is mentioned in the "Ballindalloch Estate Accounts."

2 Jo Dow
1 George McGoun
4 Jo Stewart, Neithertown(?)
1 John Anderson

31
1 James Grant

32
[Rothes]
1 More(?) A. Margach
2 George Gray, Arnely
2 Peter Grant, Craigneuch
2 Alexr Brimner
1 Gorge Davidson in Mains
1 James Sutter
1 James Thomson
1 John Anderson
1 James Jamess(?)
1 Alexr Reuch
1 Will Simson
1 Gorge Davidson, Strenbucie
2 Robert Leslie
1 James Lean
1 Will Duston
1 John Reuch
1 John Harie
1 Normin Deen
1 Robert Mull
1 John Bouman

No. LIV.

Rev. James Lumsden of Corrachree,[1] Minister of Strathdon, to Robert Grant of Tammore.

D Sir,

No doubt ye have so wrote Lord Elchies that he will come north in ease to clear with me anent my father-in-law's[2] exerie:

[1]A small property in the Parish of Tarland.

[2]Patrick Grant of Pitchaish, Ballindalloch, Lord Elchies' uncle.

I expect to hear from you how soon his Lop. comes to the countrey, and I'm determined, if it be not his fault, to bring that matter to some period or other. I hope ye will get his Lop. to name the time and the place when I am to have the honour to wait of him, and it's equal to me when and where it be, provoiding we meet and do bussiness before his Lop. begin his circuit. My wife[1] makes offer of her kind and affectionat complements to you and Mrs Grant, as doth,

d Sir,
your most affectionat and much obliged
humble Servant,
JAMES LUMSDEN.

Manse of Strathdon,
25th February, 1740.

No. LV.

JOHN MCPHERSON,[2] Barrackmaster at Ruthven, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I hade yours this morning, and have been all wise oblidg'd to you for your trouble and your endeavours of assissting me. I

[1]Mary, daughter of Patrick Grant of Pitchaish; retoured heir to him, 12th February, 1736. "The Chiefs of Grant," Vol. I, 520. The following entries appear in the "Ballindalloch Estate Accounts":—1737. To Cash payd Mr. James Lumsden of Corrichrees one thousand three hundred and eighty five pounds four shilling and eight pennies and my bill to him payable the 10th Augt 1737 for £2357: 10 Scots making in haill the sum of three thousand seven hundred and fourty two pound fourteen shilling and eight pennies Scots, whereof fifty seven pounds ten shilling as the @ rent of the contents of my said bill to the 10th Augt, and the said haill sum is payt of a debt due by the said Alexr Grant of Ballindalloch to Do Lumsden for an adjudication he had in right of his spouse as heir and exor to the deceast Patrick Grant of Pitchash her father as p. a contract of agreement past betwixt the said Alexr Grant of Ballindalloch and the said Mr Lumsden, and a disposition to the said adjudication in favours of the said Alexr Grant, and a bond of warrandice in consequence of the said contract, as p. the said Alexr Grant his Trustees' letter to me to pay the said debt and the said disposition and bond of warrandice £3742: 14: 8. 1738. To £25 Scots payd to Mr James Lumsden of Corrichrees more than is stated in a former article of this accot as appears by my accepted bill retired from him £25.

[2]Of Knappach; was of the Invereshie family; for some years the ruling elder of the Church of Kingussie; died 17th January, 1754. *Vide* Alexander Macpherson's "Church and Social Life in the Highlands."

am sorry for the sake of poor people, that all grain is turn'd so high; but am hopefull, if this rigorous season alter'd, that prices will abate. If the meall continues as at present, shall buy non, but referr my self to the increass of the new cropt. God send a good season, only shall want five or six bolls, as reasonable as it can be hade, for two or three poor people that I most serv.

As for the malt and bear, I told you in my last that I would take, at least I desired you keep, both the Elchies and Dunphail bear till wee should meett, and in your last you wrote me the Dunphail bear would cost me ten merks deliver'd at Castle Grant, where I can gett it malted; which I shall take; and you may still keep the Elchies bear till wee meett, so that I hope, both that, with Kinninvie's bear that Lonnach receiv'd, will keep me, though as yet I know not what number of bolls will be at Dunphail. As neither my own, nor the country labouring, is yet done, nor will next week, being likewise hurry'd getting dear forradge from the Braes of Badenoch for the dragoons, I cannot goe down before I send for the first litle draught of meall, which will not be soonner than the 19th current, when I expect to be that night, or Tuesday night at furthest, at your house; but if possible wee shall weight Tuesday, and lift Wednesday as usuall. As for the Edinvilly malt, it seems they expect a greater price than the present ten merks it gives. As they will not determine them selves, it may chance to fall if the season alter'd; but if you cannot gett them to serv sufficient malt deliver'd to me at Ann[1] side at ten merks, from which place it will cost me twelve er it arrives here, and some more when the carryadge of the secks is added, I can give no more: if they doe not fix with you at that price, I would not keep them from their chance if better will offerr. I shall hope, with your advice and assisstance, that I shall have my summer malt here for about twelve merks. If this comes soon to hand, you may acknowledge the recept per first, and accquaint me if you think you can send me more than 20 bolls meall, as it's not carry'd before the 21st current. I beleiv again then I could command forty horse; but what's convenient for you, shall satisfy me, though I beleiv again then Edinvilly tennents will be done of their labouring. If possible, in any event, let me hear from you per first; you'l perhaps gett occasion befor the post, as merchants will be comeing to our merkat, both from Skirdustan,

[1]The river Avon.

and other places: it holds Tuesday come eight dayes, the thirteenth current.

You'l please forward the enclos'd without loss of time though per express, which I shall pay at meetting. With my most dutifull respects to you and lady, not forgetting William, is all from,

dr Sir,

your own &c,

JOHN MCPHERSON.

Ruthven, May 4th, 1740.

No. LVI.

WILLIAM LESLIE of Balnageith to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Rothes, Novr 13th, 1740.

Dr Sir,

Notwithstanding I had a letter from you some time ago desiring I might call Birliemen and divide the land of the Nethertown in three equal parts, yet the hervast being so late and the weather so bad, I could not get people to meet upon it till now (but the tenants are at no great loss for labouring more than their neighbours.) This day Hillockhead,[1] John Roger, and I, wt some other Birliemen have been upon the ground in order to divide it as ye proposed, and after conveening the whole possesson, Collie and all the rest were of opinion, Alexr Ross only dissenting, that there cannot be a more equal and just division of the ground than what is just now, [whic]h was done about forty years ago, when the town [wa]s divided in three parts, the Braes, next the Lint-Haugh, which is one part, the middle part, which is opposite to the town, the second and warst part and the third part lying next Goselopcraig, which is a little better as to the soil, being all divided among the tenants, some having eight ridges, some four, and some two, conform to their rents, and they are all willing, if any of them have a larger share, to give off to his neighbour. After travelling the ground over and over again, and looking at each man's part as divided, we were of opinion that there is no difference in the goodness of the ground, but only that Ross

[1] Alexander Grant, Tammore's brother-in-law.

would be content to have a little of his neighbour's bear land root, in place of his predecessor's weast ground, as he terms it, with which they are unwilling to part; and if it comes to be divided again, it will require a great deal of pains, and your own presence, to satisfy them.

I am, Sir,
your most humble sertt,
WILLIAM LESLIE[1]

No. LVII.

ALEXR. GRANT of Dalrachnie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

Wee arrived here[2] safe on Saturday afternoon, but found Davie, Andrew, and Marie[3] in great distress with the chin coff. The two last are like to do well, but Davie, who was tender from his infancie, is sore spent, coffs up a great deal of filthie stuff like venome, and is reduced so much that he cannot stand alone. Monroe, the surgion, feares the worst of him, and his parents have no hopes of his recovery.

I writt to John[4] by Tuesday's post; his father had a letter from him lately writt in French, and is exceeding well pleased with him &c. Toshie[5] tells me that he took the freedome to speak to him lately to augment John's allowance, and that Willie, his sone, who is now at Edinr ashured him he would be lookd down upon unless he lived like his fellow students; that living was become dowbly dearer then when my Ld studyed at Leyden, as it was at Edinr in proportion; to which he got for answere the less money he had to throw away he would apply the better to his book. I hope John will wryte to his ffather upon receipt of

[1]At this time resident in Burncrooks. "Rothes Parish Register."

[2]*I.e.*, Shank, Lord Elchies' residence, near Edinburgh.

[3]Three of Lord Elchies' Children.

[4]Lord Elchies' eldest son, at this time studying at Leyden.

[5]Perhaps William Mackintosh of Balnespic; he married Margaret, daughter of George Grant of Clury, by whom he had two sons, Lachlan and William: the latter became Lieutenant-Colonel, 97th Regiment, and died at Nairn in 1814. "The Mackintoshes and Clan Chattan," pp. 396-7.

my letter to him, and open his case to him: he is now in such favour that I'me hopefull he will not deny his requeest.

Lord Sample's Regement[1] is ordered up to be revewd by the King on Hounslow Heath and probably from thence to fflanders; the Duke of Argyle it's thought will command these. I shall carry your sadle home and any other thing you desyre by nixt post. I set owt from this place Munday or Tuesday come ieght days. My service to your Ribb[2] and to Willie[3] when you have ocasion. I am,

dr Sir,
your verrie aff. and faithfull sert,
ALEXR. GRANT.

Shank, 19th Augt, 1742.

No. LVIII.

ALEXR. GRANT of Dalrachnie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Inverlaidnen, 27th Septr, 1742.

Dr Sir,

I had the inclosed letter this day from our freind John,[4] adviseing his draught on me for £60 ster to the order of James Crawford, qch is come to hand for acceptance. He has anticipat so farr as not haveing first writt to his ffather as my letter directed him incloseing yours (to me) to the same purpose. The tyme is so near that I believe it's better make use of so much of Belliemor's[5] money att Edinburgh, till wee can repay it about Mertt, and this Belliemore will not, I think, refuse. If you like this method, wryt him under my cover; if not, advise me what's nixt to be done; wee shall soon know how his ffather relishes the thing.

[1]The Highland Regiment marched south in March, 1743; but the fact that the real object was to embark for Flanders was concealed from the men, and this deception led to the famous mutiny in May, 1743, resulting in the execution of Corporals Samuel and Malcolm McPherson and Private Farquhar Shaw.

[2]Tammore's wife.

[3]Tammore's only child.

[4]Lord Elchies' eldest son.

[5]John Grant of Ballimore.

I shall soon see you at Castle Grant, and talk with you about other things.

If you have not ordered the remainder of bear at Elchies to be made into malt, I wish you would send it to Jackson's, and tell me qt day I shall send for it there, as I must make meale of it. I am, dr Sir,

your faithfull and aff. sert,

ALEXR. GRANT.

No. LIX.

Rev. HUGH GRANT, Minister of Knockando, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sr,

Inclosed I have sent a double of my presentation and of Prinll Drew's letter to me about the time that Tullochcribein was to send his son to College,[1] and I have no other papers, nor can I give any more dates to clear up the affair. If you take any concern in this matter, you'l see it necessary to cause the deed of mortificaon be enquired after, and as by the prinll's letter it appears the College look on themselves bound to look after the payment of the money, their accounts must be audited, and if Grant insists to have the accumulate interests added to the prinll, I believe they may yield, tho' it appears pretty strange if these added to the prinll will afford no more than bare dyet. This our chief will need particularly to look after.

I went to Colledge in ye year 1716, and my granduncle's widow lived about 2 years longer, 1718, from which time they have only a demand for my four years' education; this brings it 1722; and this current is the 20th year from that. If the gentlemen of the University are allowed, this matter will dwindle among their hands, and it were a pity it should. From these hints you'l form a short memorial to be put in the proper hands, and among other services you have done the Clann, this will be none of the least usefull to posterity. I saw your son yesterday at

[1]The son may perhaps be Alexander, referred to in the inscription on tombstone in Duthil Churchyard, which reads:—Alexr. Grant of Tullichgriban Esq. died 22nd Feb. 1829, aged 98 years; and his widow, Margaret Grant, died 15th April, 1849. Erected by their only child, Isabella Elizabeth, wife of General Sir Lewis Grant. Gordon's Shaw's "Moray," I, 258.

Elgin; he dined wt us at Greenhall's house, and was so modest as not insist upon my getting them the play when I proposed it. I am, dr Sir, yrs etc,

Hu: Grant.

Knockando, Octor 22d, 1742.

No. LX.

Alexr. Grant of Dalrachnie to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I have yours and have receavd the two oxen, but must defar sending them sowth till nixt week when I shall furnish two sufficient cows to be sent south with theme att Bewly merket. I shall imploy a proper hand to drive theme and wryte billets to accommodat theme at every stage.

I receavd John's draught discharged, and have advice from Mr Haliburtone that your bill on Ld Elchies is honoured. I would have sent you John's bill discharged with Haliburton's letter, but am afraid it might be damnifyd in this bad day, but you shall have it at meeting. I am,

dr Sir,
your aff. servant,
Alexr. Grant.

Inverlaidnen, 27th Octr, 1742.

No. LXI.

John McPherson, Barrackmaster at Ruthven, to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

The bearer is my brother-in-law Corronach's servant whom I have sent express to know if you have any of the meall at Elchies undisspos'd of. I doe not think he'l want any great quantity; half a dozen or ten bolls is the most I think he'l want; whatever he'l take you may safely give it him; and when he sends for it, I shall write allongs with his own bill which I shall see pay'd.

Had I known your being at Invereshy, would have waited of you, as you could not come conveniently this length. The Generall[1] wrote me last post that he payd Lo/ Elchies for the 200 bolls meall on production of my recept. My wife still continues in a bade way, not likely to recovver. With my dutifull respects to you and my landlady is all from,

dr Sir,
your own etc,
JOHN MCPHERSON.

Ruthven, 24th August, 1743.

P.S.—As the harvest is so very promiseing, I'm giveing out that Delrachny's price—eight merk nine stone—is your standard, for which it has been sold in your neighbourhood, six weeks agoe, viz: to Martimess 1744.

No. LXII.

Rev. FRANCIS GRANT, Minister of Cromdale, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Cromdale, 29th June, 1744.

Dr Sir,

As the rain kept from waiting of you this day, so it was not in my power to go your length yesterday or day before as I propos'd.

Mean time I thought proper to send you the inclosed by which you'l see how your pupil Frank is inclin'd, and what I've writt L. El———s on the subject. If you find ought amiss in it please dash out, and I shall transcribe as you correct. If it be agreeable, please transmit it with your own after sealing, and, if you incline, I shall forward yours and it to the post office upon returning the bearer early to morrow. Frank joins in compliments to you, Mistris Grant, and Will with, dear Sir,

yours,
FRANCIS GRANTT.

[1]Probably General Guest. *Vide* No. VI, Part I.

If Frank be so luckie as get the burse, Sir Alexr will not have ground to recall his presentation for the like reason as he did from ————. He was so religiously scrupulous on that head, that he diverted me from applying Sir James Grant for his interest for a burse to him from the Crown last harvest, fearing to offend Sir Alexr, and maintaining that it would be a robing of oyrs if he got both; tho' I only wanted one from the Crown, if possible, to support him till Sir Alexr's would answer.

No. LXIII.

ROBERT GRANT, W.S., Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I received yours by this bearer late upon Friday night, and early next morning sent an express to Lo/ Elchies, which did not return till about four of the clock afternoon, and as the clerks of the bills could not then be got, there could be nothing done till this morning; and as I found by Lo/ Elchies answer to you, and a few lines his Lop wrote myself that he did not countermand a suspension's being raised for Duncan, tho' he would be no party to it, I therefore at some expence have got the suspension past, and has sent it to Jon Proctor. I really think Duncan is opprest; and I am perswaded Lord Elchies will, upon proper information and thinking upon the case, interfeir for his own interest, if his partys doe not give up the matter, which it would be wise in them to doe. Being in haste to gett off the bearer, I make offer of my service to your lady, and am most sincerely,

dr Sir,
your most obtt hull servtt,
ROB: GRANT.

Edinr, 3 Septer, 1744.

Delnabo is not in town.

No. LXIV.

JOHN PROCTOR, Notary, Clayfur, Easter Elchies, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sr,

After Patrick Grant's four bolls, there will not be in the big chest in the little victuall house, after compting on the haddishes put in, but three firlots, and whatever outcome yr may happen to be. Cluny has got the last of the fourscore this day, whereof there was ten of the meall of the Mains, and there remains of it only 30 bolls 2 firlots. I wrote you the day you went to Murray, and Mrs. Grant told the bearer you was to be at Elchies in your return yrfrom, where I still expected you. Friday thereafter Duncan's express came from Edr by whom I got the suspension, which, as there has been noe poinding attempted, he's unintimated till I would see you, or be advis'd by you. I sent a letter that came along wt it directed to you, wt a daur of Mr ffraser's yesterday. The having no accots of yr being come home, and expecting you here in yr return, as Mrs Grant said, was the reason why it was not sooner sent.

Since I wrote you last some of the ministers of this Presbetry have advised Mr Duncan to give in a petition to their next Presbetry which holds at Knockando Tuesday next setting furth the hard usage, and severe treatmt he has met with from the Session of Dindurcus, Mr Robt Dalrymple and his friends, and put it on me to write such petition. I had occasion to see Mr George at Boharm who revised the petition and put his amendmts thereon, being by his means I engaged in it. He says the only thing that will hinder the success of such petition wt the Pbry, will be Duncan's former behaviour before them. As a salvo for that, he likewise says, and desired me write you from him, that if my Lord has a mind to take any concern in the affair (which I suppose you know now) it would be of great use, if you as factor for him would write a letter to the Pbry to be given in wt sd petition to this purpose, intreating of the Pbry that as the Session of Dindurcus has either by themselves, or by giving commission to Mr. Robt Dalrymple, done a great deall of harm to George Duncan, late schoolmaster there, who has been for some time past one of Ld Elcheis' tennents, by prosecuting a removing agt him from some houses and a yeard possesst be him as Ld Elcheis'

property for these 13 yrs past, and which were set to him be you at the sight and be the advice of Mr David Dalrymple, moderator of the said Kirk Session, and has egregiously opprest him by obtaining another dect agt him for £3 str of damnages and expences, without ever so much as producing any right in the Session's favours, or giving you any satisfying account thereof. That the Pbry would be pleased to examine into the conduct of the Session in that affair, and their rights to the sd houses and yeard, and censure them (if in the wrong) as the Pbry shall see meet: seeing you believe every Kirk Session is subject to the direction of the Pbry of its own bounds. Such letter, and what else you please to add, he says, would greatly embolden them. Seeing Duncan's testimony alone, will, he's afraid, be judg'd too narrow. He and Mr Hugh Grant, both of whom I have spoke to, are desirous that I should attend the Pbry wt Duncan, because he cannot speak himself in his own behalf, and is apt to be misled be others, but I declin'd meddling unless you thought proper. They would be content, if you could attend the Pbry at Knockando yrself, but in case you think not that proper, and that you incline my interfiering, they expect a letter in the above terms, and that you'll send the same to me, wt a Prorie to me from you to wait of the Pbry and deliver the same, and to doe yrin afterwards as you shall advise me, that I may thereby appear in both capacities. As to all which I expect yr answer as soon as possible. Geo: Grant desir'd me send the petition to Mr John Paull, that for certain reasons he might see it, oyrways I had sent you a sight of it. I want likewise to know whether I should keep the suspension a secret, as I have yet done, till they attempt their poinding, or if you incline that the sa . . . at wtout regard to yr poinding. I would likewise be fond to know what effect Duncan's letter has had on his Lop., if he is resolv'd to take any concern or not; because if he takes none, some have done enough; and if he does, it will make us speak out wt greater assurance, as all cowards doe when they're sure of a good back. I am,

Sir,

your most humble servt,

Jo. Proctor.

Clfr, Septr 13th, 1744.

Endorsed:—To Robert Grant of Tomoir Esqr, to the care of Lewis Grant in Kirdells.

No. LXV.

The Presbytery of Aberlour, by Rev. JOHN PAUL, Minister of Rothes, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

We have your letter, to which we are determined to pay all manner of regaird; and in order to this have resolved to meet at Dundurcass, Octr the 9th, in order to hold a parochial visitation. We are very sorry the Session of Dundurcass have proceeded in such manner; you shall see we have no intention to doe any thing that can give the least ground off offence to Lord Elchies, for whom we have the greatest regaird. We subscribe ourselves by our modr,

Sir,
your most obedt sert,
JOHN PAUL.

Knock[an]do, Sept 18th, 1744.

No. LXVI.

JOHN DUFF, Elgin, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Elgin, 5th Novr., 1744.

Sir,

The bearer, Michael Phimister, tells me he is in terms with you for a tack in some part of Lord Elcheis his Eastate, and that you want I should give a character of him, and all I can say is, that the man hath lived in the nighbourhood of this toun for upwards of twenty years past, and had still the character of ane honest industriose tennent. I doe not know his circumstances, but am told he payed Dunkinty twenty sewen bolls of yearly rent, and that he is not much in arears. The man had the character of a good nighbour, and this is all I can say of him, which, with my respeckts is all from,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
JOHN DUFF.[1]

[1]John Duff, Senior, Provost of Elgin, 1746-9, was the son of Patrick D. of Craigston, and was the father of John Duff, Junior, Merchant, Elgin, who ultimately came to financial grief and fled.

No. LXVII.

GEORGE DAVIDSON, Mains of Rothes, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

After parting wt you at Elchies I wrote my son informing him of our communing, who, in consequence of wh, has sent me his tack wh you have here inclosed. He bids me write you, that if you'ld allow him, he would willingly reside at, and possess it, but rather than put you or himself to any trouble or expence by entring into a law plea, he chuses to referr it to your self, to do in it what you think proper. I would have seen you at Tommore had not this storm prevented me, but shall be glade to speak to you further the first time you come to Elchies, being if you could think of allowing me or my son to reside at it. I should willingly oblige my self to make payment of the tack duty wh is from,

Sir,
your most humble sert.,
G. D.

Mains of Rothes,
13th Decr, 1744.

Endorsed:—George Davidson's letter for Davidson's tack. 1744.

No. LXVIII.

[Lord ELCHIES' Estates.]

1728. OLD RENTALL.

	Money.			Victuall.		
Elches—Stipend included - -	609	16	4	60	2	3
Dandalieth - - - - -	339	2	0	31	1	2
Rothes - - - - -	1358	7	0	105	3	0
Dundurcas - - - - -	160	0	0	32	0	0
ffreefield and Colly - - -	89	3	4	21	0	0
Aikenway - - - - -	133	6	8	32	0	0
Edinvilly—Stipend included - -	655	5	8	76	3	2

1744. NEW RENTALL.

	Money.			Victuall.		
Elches - - - - - -	£807	19	6	£67	2	3⅛
Dandalieth - - - - -	380	9	6	43	3	2
Rothes - - - - - -	1892	7	0	213	2	3
Dundurcas - - - - -	175	18	4	33	1	0
ffreefield and Colly - - -	90	19	4	21	0	0
Aikenway - - - - -	184	3	4	32	0	0
Edinvilly - - - - -	691	8	2	96	2	0⅛

No. LXIX.

Captain LEWIS GRANT of Achterblair to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dear Sir,

I send you here inclosed your receipt to Delnabo for the two bills, as I paid him the money upon Saturday night, and nixt morning I paid Robert Scott Lord Elchies' money, which you'll find by his letter that I gave into the post office, so I think I am disposed of your money agreeable to your directions, as Delnabo writes you by this post with the acctt you mentioned to me.

I have been so busie about regimentall affairs since I came here that I had litle time to look after my law affairs; so you may expect to hear from me nixt post. Our transports are at Leith, but the convey is not arrived yet, but is expected every moment, so that it's pretty uncertain when we shall leave this place.

I have got Lachlan Grant's acctt tuo days agoe, which I propose to pay to morrow at Belindalloch sight, and I shall reckon myself happie when I end with him. He acknowledges he was rash in makeing propossalls in my affair without proper powers, but at the same time justified himself [to] Ld Elchies and some other friends, but they no sooner saw me and his scheme but they judged as my friends at home did.

I am just now come to towne from the Shank with Belindalloch and Major Colquhoun where we had a heartie balle last night, and I cannot tell you how much I am obliged to Ld Elchies, who spoke a litle of my affair before the compy, where you may beleive I was silent; but this morning Belindalloch and he had my affair through hand; he says Lach. danced more then the piper play'd. Make my compliments to your wife; and I am,

dear Sir,
most ffaithfully yours,
LEWIS GRANT.

Edr, 28th March, 1745.

No. LXX.

LUDOVICK GRANT of Knockando to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

Conform to my promise I hereby acquaint you that I am content to sell one hundred bolls of my meall to Mr Gordon, the Curator of Gordon, at five pound sixteen shilling and eight pennies Scots money the eight stone weight, provideing that you sell him Lord Elchiese's meall at the same price. But if you doe not sell Lord Elchiese' meall, I will sell none of mine so soon untill I hear how others are selling. As you expected advise from Lord Elchise by last post about his meall you'l please write me what his orders are; and if he agrees to the selling his meall at the above rate, I will be content how soon I gett Mr. Gordon's security or yours for the price of the hundred bolls payable at Martimass next, and he mine for the meall deliverable at Garmouth some time in June, for I will not oblidge myself to deliver my meall before June upon account of the labouring. I always am,

Sir,
your affect. most humble sert,
LUD: GRANT.

Knockandow, Aprile 2d, 1745.

No. LXXI.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN GORDON of Cluny.

Sir,

In obedience to yours of the 25th past commisioning me to buy eight hundred bolls meall for your use at five pds sixteen shilling and eight pennies the eight stone payable at Martimas next and four hundred bolls at eight merks ready money, nine stone to the boll, and advising to give you notice if I could buy any at the above prices either on time or for ready money, and declairing your commision to expire in fourteen days if not renew'd by a subesquent letter, I waited on Knockandow, who has one hundred bolls; Wester Elches and Boginduie, who has three hundred bolls betwixt them; and I comunicat your letter to them: they are satisfied to deall with you preferable to any oyr mert., but insist on geting six pounds for the eight stone payable at Martimas; and non of them will agree to carry and deliver sooner than the first of June by reason of the labourings being so late. They say that £6 pds is the price that Buckie and Ranas has got, and that they have even some complement to take that price; and Sir Harry Inness let Elches see a letter on Saturday last offering him £6: 3: 4 for his meall, and I think Whitsunday's payment. Lo/ Elches writes me of the 28ht that he is told that £6 is the current price, and impowers me to sell at that price. Knockandow give me leave to sell his at what ever price I sell Lord Elches' meall. The oyr gentilemen will not on any condition sell at less than £6 whatever I sell at; and I would with all my heart wish you to have the bargain if there is any thing to be got by it; so if you incline to have the meall, write me that you'l accept of it in these terms—to be deliverd at Garmouth on eight days advertisement after the ship arives to take it in; and I shall finish with them, and if possible either beat them down a penny in the boll, or get a boll to the hundred; and shall give you three hundred and fifty bolls—fifty more or less in my choise—of Lord Elches' meall in the same terms, but cannot promise to carry sooner than the first of June, nor will all the meall be got in till the oats are sown; and I'me even afraid it will not be all payd in this year: the stra is so scarce that the people have and must yet give a good deall of there corn to there catle, which

I'me afraid will raise the price much higher in the countrey than is yet expected. I can find no great quantitys among the tennents, and the litle they have they get six pds ready money for it; so can get non at your price in this part of the country, and but litle if I gave £6 for it; and non of those I conversd would undertake to carry. Send me your answer by the bearer, or agt Twesday next to Rothes where I intend to be that day, and this offer is not to be binding on me longer than till Twesday the 9th current, as my powers from the gentilemen expires that day. I am,

Sir,
your most humble servt,
Rob: Grant.

Tomoir, Aprill 3d, 1745.

To John Gordon Esqr at his house in ffocabers.

No. LXXII.

Ludovick Grant of Knockando to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

The inclosed which is come only just now to my hands is the occasion of my running you this express by which you'l see that I am oblidged to return ane answer to it without loss of time. The port for shipping the meall that Mr Shaw writes of is full as convenient for me as Speymouth, and you'l see by his letter that he can give as great a price as any other mertchant. Therefore you'l now write me if Mr Gordon the curator has holden the offer you made him of Lord Elchiese' meall and mine, at six pound the eight stone; for if he does not give that price, I doe not incline to sell cheaper, considering that I am now informed severalls have gote that price alreadie, particularly Buckie and Clashtirim have gote six pound from Mr Bremner in Portsoy; and Elchiese was here the oyr day who tells me he seed a letter with Sir Harry Innes from Provost Couts of date the 26th of March offering him six pound three shilling and four pennies the boll at eight stone weight for his meall, and Elchiese says he thinks it was Whits payment. However, in case the curator has write you that he would give no more then his first offer, which was five pound sixteen shilling and eight pennies, I will not sell at that price

unless you have returned him answer promiseing him Lord Elchiese' meall and mine at that price, which if you have done I still adhear to it; so that you'l now please acquaint me what you have done in the matter that I may know if I am at liberty to sell or not.

If the bearer finds you not at home, please runn me ane express with your answer how soon this comes to your hands. I am,

dr Sir,
your affect. humble sert,
LUD: GRANT.

Knockandow, Aprile 6th, 1745.

Return me Mr Shaw's letter.

No. LXXIII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN GORDON of Cluny.

Sir,

I wrote you of the 3d advising yt I had bespocke 100 bolls of Knockandow's meall, 300 of Wester Elches and Bogindue, and yt they were satisfied to take six pds for eight stone, Martimas payment, the meall to be deliverd at Garmouth any day after the first of June, and that I wantd give you 350 bolls of Lord Elches' meall—50 bolls more or less—at that price, and to give you a boll to the hundred of Lo: Elches' meall and Knockandow's, but that the oyer gentilemen were positive to have six pds without giving anything, and that my powers expired yesterday when I expected to have had your answer at Rothes. I have now run you this express, as I had no return to my last, to know your mind about it, and to tell you that tho' I expected to get a boll to the 100 from Wester Elches and Boginduie, that they absolutely refus'd it, and declair they are at liberty to dispose of there meall: I have prevail'd with Knockandow to stand to what I propos'd if he is advis'd by tomorrow yt you hold the bargain in the terms I offerd it; and am still satisfied to give you four hundred bolls of Lord Elches' meall and of an oyr gentileman's as I offer'd, that is, at six pds pr eight stone, and a boll to the hundred, Mert. payment, to be deliver'd at Garmouth any day after the first of June on eight days advertisement, but this not to be binding on me longer than

till tomorrow. It seems to me that Wester Elches and Boginduie have got a better offer than what I askd from you, and I know yt Knockandow has ready money in his offer tho' he indulges me with a day longer before he breacks of from what he alowed me to write formerly; and I'me told you have given a greater price latly than I demand: however I want to deall with you, and therefore have offer'd what meall I have to dispose of cheaper than I know oyr people get.

I have sent a letter from John McPherson with a new, and I think a great offer, for an oyr pice of land; and by his letter to me I doe not think it's interest altogether that induces him to offer so high: he would wish it to be thought that it's his intrest, and not his money that preferrs him, and I think you'l not readily grudge him that if my Lord Dukes get money enough for the tack. Send him a return by the bearer. My humble duty to Mirs. Gordon; and I am, with very great esteem,

Sir,
your most humble sert,

Elches, Aprill 10th, 1745. Rob. Grant.

No. LXXIV.

John Gordon of Cluny to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Fochabers, 10th Aprile, 1745.

Sir,

In return to your favoures p. bearer, please know that I wrote you of the fifth current by Peter McGrigor, who promis'd next day to delyver the same, accepting of the haill meall offered me by your former letter at six pund payll in December next, with a boll to the hundred wtout payt. He is greatly to blame for neglecting the delyvery of my ler: I shall possibly not mind his comns so well as I have hitherto done. As Bogenduy and Wester Elchies have a better offer, possibly mine would not have been accepted of, as I insisted on the boll to the hundred; but if I am dissappointed I shall not reckon my loss very great. Mean time I again accept of the ffour hundred bolls meall belonging to Elchies and anoyr gentleman, and of Knockando's hundred bolls at six pund p. boll, Marts payt, with a boll to the hundred delyverable at Garmouth any time after the first of June next, upon eight days

advertisment, free aboard of any vessle I shall have there to receave the same.

This differs only from my former that the advertisment there being only 4 days, and the price was only payll in Decr; but neither of those were matteriall nor worth sticking at; neither would I have been ane hour the longer a paying nor hurried the delyvery a minute sooner. I bought Glengarrack's meall yesterday at 6£ with a boll to the hundred, and except that I declare I have not gone the length of six pund this season, and for 120 bolls more at anoyr quarter. The price being high, and bear extreamly cheap, I'm not very fond of going deep: if it was not that I bought some soon that will afford the risque of latter bargains, I should not have readily ventur'd even so high. If Wester Elchies and Boginduie will still accede to your termes, I impower you to hold their quantity for my accott, and as for their boll to the hundred, I leave you to cutt and carve upon it. I know there's a man dealling may possibly give more than the current, at least I'm inform'd so: your friends will no doubt judge what is best for their own interest.—Some Aberdeen people had a comn from the Sky men to exceed six pund, but that is over and fill'd up, and the meall shipping; all depends now on the fate of the Irish mercat; if it comes to a glutt, every buyer will think he has . . . ugh, and such events have happend before now: in short in spite of the longest experience and best intelligence, the vit.(?) trade is all a lottrie, nor can it be oyr wise on the footing it stands; for we cannot know oyr people's wants but by hearsay wherein the best authority may be deceaved in the extent of the want. If those gentlemen accept, write me by the Highland post, or sooner if occasion serve; or if any oyr quantity of 300 bolls fall in your way twixt and then, I impower you to conclude for it as above directed wt regard to theirs. If they are yet dissengag'd, you may make the proper use of my letter @ mentd by Peter Mackgriggor in Campbdell.[1]—I have writen your friend the Barrack-master inclos'd, which I hope will please him.—If my friend, Provost Gordon, don't incline yr bear, may let me have yr lowest word of it; but I will not meddle till he give it up, for I never interfier wt a friend. My wife joins in her compts to yr lady and you; and I am,

d S,
your most humble and obligd servt,
JOHN GORDON.

[1]In the parish of Kirkmichael, Banffshire.

No. LXXV.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to LUDOVICK GRANT of Knockando.

Dr Sir,

I had a letter from John Gordon our mert. wherein he tells me that he wrote me of the 5th by Patrick McGregor of Camdell accepting of the 100 bolls of your meall, and 350 of Lord Elches' meall at six pounds the boll, eight stone to the boll, Martimas payment, he geting a boll to the hundred without paying for it, to be delivered at Garmouth any time after the first day of June next on eight day advertisement. I find he bought Glengarack's meall last week at the same price and terms: you'l please write me that you'l accept and deliver your hundred bolls on these terms. I am,

dr Sir,
your most humble and obedient sert,
ROB. GRANT.

Elches, Ap. 11th, 1745.

No. LXXVI.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN GORDON of Cluny.

Sir,

I had your letter of the 10th at Elches, and your oyr letter of the 5th came to my hand only on the 11th, and you have four hundred bolls of Lord Elches' meall and an oyr gentileman's in the terms of yours to me of the 10th with Knockandow's hundred bolls. W. Elches and Boginduie will not breack on penny in the haill bargain of six pounds, eight stone: I commun'd and prigg'd long with them, and then wrote them a letter refferring the boll to the 100 to themselves, and you see there answer inclos'd, as is Knockandow's answer to my letter to him advising that you held his meall in terms of my offer as to the four hundred bolls

I'me to deliver. I'le reley on your letter, and only ask your bill for the price when the meall is deliverd; but you'l see by Knockandow's that he wants to have your obligatione to pay the money, and that you'l take his to deliver the meall as I think the oyr gentilemen does in case you'l . . . ept of there's. And I think you may send a promisary note or l[etter] to Knockandow promising on his delivering you a hundred and . . . bolls of good and suficient oat meall at Garmouth any day after the first of June on eight days' advertisement that you'l accept a bill for fifty pounds sterling as the price of the meall payable at Martimas, and an oyr letter or note to the oyr gentilemen for £150 in the same way as the price of there hundred bolls. They certainly could have got a litle more for there meall if it had not been bespock for you. Lord Elches was offer'd, as Delrachnie, who is just now come from Edr., writes me, six pds two pence for his: he does not tell me where it was to be deliver'd, but I apprehend it was at Portsoy, so I'me satisfied with the bargain I have made, and if the farins are weell payd, may happen to have a litle more that I will not . . . at to give to you, but can neither promise nor condesend on any quantity till his meall is payd in. I observe on thing in your letter of the 5th—that you say in your letter the meall to be deliverd free aboard of any ship you send to Garmouth to take it in—Wee are only to deliver the meall on the shore at Speymouth, and if boats are necessary to ship it, or that there is any shore or oyr dues, you'r to be at that expence; nor does your letter of the 10th or any of your former letters mention or mean that the seller sh'ud be at any charge: no doubt if your ship can ly so near as that the carryers can goe up on planks, they will put it aboard; but for any oyr charge, I will not pay it, nor must you write of any such thing to the oyr gentilemen, as it may frighten them from the bargain.

One letter will serve for Wester Elches and Boginduie, which the post will deliver to Boginduie, and you may send Knockandow's letter to me to be deliver'd. I am,

dr Sir,

your most humble sert,

Rob. Grant.

Tomoir, Ap. 13th, 1745.

Endorsed:—To John Gordon Esqr at his house in ffocabers.

No. LXXVII.

JOHN GORDON of Cluny to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Fochrs, 17 Aprile, 1745.

Sir,

I was from home when your favoures 13 curt came to hand, otherwise would have return'd answers both to you and the other gentn upon recept of it. I think our bargain of the ffour hundred bolls of Lord Elchies' and the oyr gentleman's meall may stand upon the ffooting it . . . es, at least untill delyvery, and if you incline, I shall then take up my letters and grant my acceptance in termes of our agreement. There are no dues payll at Garmoth; the meall can be delyvered wtout any expence but that of carriage, and hands to help at the shipping, which the carriers of the meall alwise doe. Whatever quantity you may have to delyver above the said four hundred bolls, I shall take it at the same rate since you declair your inclination of giving me it: only you'l acquaint how soon you are certain yr self what the additionall quantity may be. I approve of yr holding the bargain with Wester Elchies and Boigenduie for the other three hundred bolls, to whom according to yr direction have writen the inclosd to which referr as I doe to that inclosd for Knockandoe: so I hope all now stands concluded. I shall make no speech for trouble, but assure you of the like readiness to serve you or any of your friends, being respectfully,

dr Sir,

your most obligd humble servt,

JOHN GORDON.

P.S.—You may please keep in mind the hint I gave you concerning the fearme bear—I have sent the prinll lers to Boignduie, both his own and Elchies'es yr inclosd and only closed . . . oppie in here: this you may notifie to them.

No. LXXVIII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN GORDON of Cluny.

Sir,

Yours of yesterday's date was deliver'd to me by the bearer this day, and he tells me that he deliver'd your letter to Boginduie

yester night, and I shall send Knockandow's letter to him just now; and am perswaded your bargain with those gentilemen is now finished. I wrote to Provost Gordon about Capt. Grant's small parcell of bear; when I have his answer shall advise you if I'me at liberty to commune with you about it. I had a letter from Lo/ Elches by last post in answer to one I wrote him advising that I had made an offer of his meall at the rate it's sold to you, and I wrote him by last post that I had concluded for three hundred bolls of it: he thinks the price too low, and says that it now has risen to ten merks: I hope however to deliver you the 400 bolls I promis'd in terms of my letters, but as he does not like the price I'me to get, will not promise to deliver any more at that price, but how soon I know the quantity that he will have over and above the 300 bolls that I have sold you of his, shall then aquaint you and give it at the then current price, which I'me perswaded you'l agree to; and if you doe not, I'me not bound to give you any more than I have already bargain'd for, and his Lo/ may dispose of it. I am,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
Rob. Grant.

Tomoir, Aprill 18th, 1745.

Endorsed:—To John Gordon Esqr at his house in ffocabers.

No. LXXIX.

Ludovick Grant of Knockando to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I just now received yours with a letter from the Curator inclosed oblidgeing him to pay the price of the hundred bolls I sold him, which letter I think is security enough tho' the bargain were greater. I always am,

dr Sir,
affectionatly yours etc,
Lud: Grant.

Knockandow, Aprile 18th, 1745.

No. LXXX.

JOHN HAMILTON, Sandstown, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

Your favoures of 23d curt was only brought me this moment, and yow may be well assur'd that I deall as litle in contryvances to defraud just credetors, or in false or unjust executiones as any other; but being ignorant of Mr. Grant of Conracke's affaires I putt the dillegence into a messr's hands, and was forsed to apply to a friend for directing him in laying on arreastments in order to a full discovery; and have been since told yowr haveing poynded Conracke's effects for Lord Elchess' rents. It was generally beliv'd that there was a considerable ballance in your hands which could be best evicted by such arreastment, and my friend was therfor induc'd to direct the giveing yow one: had I previously known of it, would have us'd the freedome of writeing yow with the messr; and as I never deall in private practices that will occassione justly a suspentione, will advert to apprise yow in due time when and where the forthcomeing will be insisted upon, and shall indeavoure to make it as easie to yow as the natoure and situatione of the case admitts off. My complements to Mrs Grant, and I am,

dr Sir,
your most obedient humble sert,
JOHN HAMILTON.

Sandstown, 27th May, 1745.

No. LXXXI.

JOHN GORDON of Cluny to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Fochrs, 26 June, 1745.

Sir,

You'l please order down to Speymouth on Saturnday this week 2 or 300 bolls of my Lord Elchies's meall: it will be receaved by Robert Chalmers, the overseer of my fishing at the Reid Coiff(?) house on the Garmoth side, whose recept shall be

exchang'd with my own, and in the mean time be as valide as mine. You'l order down on Monday next what you cannot carrie on Saturnday of the said 300 bolls meall: if you can make out 400 bolls said two days, may please doe it. If you cannot doe it your self, may cause your friends make out what you want—I mean Boginduie and Elchies. I contrive this partiall delyvery as I expect a large ship which will be tedious to load when all to be carried from the countrie, and it will be more convenient for you to delyver and carrie it in parts than all at a time. My strait will be putting it out of the girnell again, which by your order the people that come down with the remainder can send me a little help in since I contrive this partiall delyvery for their ease. If my girnell can contain any more than the 400 bolls, you shall be advis'd what more to send down either from yourself or the oyr gentlemen. I believe of this quantity you'l doe best to send only 200 of your own, and 100 from Boginduie and anoyr 100 from W: Elchies. If Knockando insist upon his 100 bolls, let it be sent allso, but oyrwise would entreat his patience till the ship arrive, which I expect every day. Since the 5th hundred bolls am affraid may oblige me to hyre a girnell, I have every thing prepar'd for receaving on Saturnday and Monday, but if Tuesday is a more convenient day than Monday, it will allso doe. I am,

Sir,

your most obedt humble servant,

JOHN GORDON.

Endorsed:—Mr. Gordon's letters and Robert Chambers' recept for meall—1745: the recept given to Jo. Proctor.

No. LXXXII.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN GORDON of Cluny.

Elches, June 29th, 1745.

Sir,

Your letter of the 26th desiring to send 400 bolls meall to Garmouth on Saturday came to my hand on the 27th, and next day I gave notice to Mr Grant of Wester Elches and Boginduie to sack a hundred bolls of there meall, and caused sack one

hundred and sixty four sacks of Lord Elches' meall on Friday to be carry'd this day, but the rain prevented it being sent. Only about sixty sacks of it was lifted, and the rain came on so heavy that there was a necessity to house it again at Rothes, but hope it will all be safe deliver'd as you directed on Munday. There is twelve stone in each sack, which makes only 246 bolls: if your chest can hold more, shall send as much down on Tuesday as will make out the 300 bolls, or delay it till the ship arives, as shall be most convenient for you. This goes by the person that delivers the meall, and is to be sent you as he passes. If Mr Robert Chambers is not at Garmouth, send him in haste to receive the meall. I am,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
Rob. Grant.

I wrote to Knockandow to have patience till your ship comes. If you'l want any to make out your loading, I can give you now 40 or 50 bolls more than I promis'd, but probably you'l tell me the meall is fallen: if so, I can easily dispose of it.

Endorsed:—To John Gordon Esqr at his house in ffocabers.

No. LXXXIII.

John Gordon of Cluny to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Fochabers, 1st July, 1745.

Dr Sir,

You may send down tomorrow as much of my Lord Elchies's meall and the oyr gentlemen's meall as with what is sent today will make out 500 bolls, which I will find room to hold. The remainders then can be lifted upon a call, and I'm hopefull by your interest and theirs, with the power of meat and drink, to obtain the assistance of your people when they bring those remainders, for helping out of the girnell to the ship with it—which will be extreamly obliging.

I see you know the present scituation of meall, which is a very fluctuating commodity. However, I accept of yr 40 or 50 bolls in termes of the rest, and you'l send it accordingly. I may

come to stand in need of a delay of payt at the terme and ask a favour, which I'le rely on you for if needfull, but not for one houre unless I give you security beyond all doubt, wch I'm able to doe in the worst event can happen. There's only anoyr man I have dealt wt I would ask this favoure of; and yet I hope I shall not have occasion if things answer any thing near well. Rot. Chalmers will accqt you if tomorrow or Wedsenday will doe best, or if alike convenient. I am,

dr Sir,
your most humble sert,
JOHN GORDON.

No. LXXXIV.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JOHN GORDON of Cluny.

Elches, July 10th, 1745.

Sir,

Knockandow is here with me, and has heard that you have a ship at Spey to take in meall, and is ancious to have his deliver'd, as is also Boginduie. Knockandow seems to be in some strait to have his meall removed by reason that he is to take down his victuall-house, and has no way to keep it, and therefore put it on me to write you to know what day he will carry it. If you doe not take it off his hands immediatly, he says it will obstruct his building, and if it was no loss to you, I think he would choise to give up the bargain rather than keep it longer than some time next week; and I cannot get Boginduie keept in temper. I wish Robert Chambers had agreed to have taken 40 or 50 bolls more of his in to your chest. Write to Knockandow by the bearer, and if it's not too much trouble to Boginduie also; and, if at all possible, make them easy. As for what I'me yet to deliver, shall not hasten you till you call for it with conveniency; and am,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
ROB: GRANT.

Endorsed:—To John Gordon Esqr at his house in ffocabers.

No. LXXXV.

JOHN GORDON of Cluny to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Fochrs, 11 July, 1745.

Sir,

I receaved your favoures p. Knockando's servant, and have writen by him to Knockando and the other gentlemen to send their meall down on Monday next, having now vessles ready here to receave it all. You may also please too send yours down Monday next: it shall likewise be taken, and subjoin'd is ane order for that end. I am with esteem,

Sir,
your most oblig'd humble servt,
JOHN GORDON.

Robert Chalmers,

You'l receave what meall Tammoir sends down Monday or Tuesday, and ship the sam aboard Capt . . . vessle.

No. LXXXVI.

JOHN GORDON of Cluny to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

The sacks were return'd yeasterday, and I give you most hearty thanks for all favoures.

I shall be very fond to see you any day next week; but till after Wedsenday, I'm affraid I shall not command much time; but if I am not at home, I will be here. I offer my duty to yr lady, and am,

Sir,
your most obligd humble sert,
JOHN GORDON.

Garmoth, 18 July, 1745.

No. LXXXVII.

Captain Ewan McPherson, yr., of Cluny to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I'm sorry to find by all that have brought home of the Elchess meall that the measure does not at all hold out: it makes not a grain more yn 13 pecks and ane half soe yt it's not possible they get the nine stone. I beg you cause advert to thos people's giving the nine stone honestly at this time. The meall indeed is allowed by all to be excellent, and pray write to Mrs Grant on this head. I am on haste but sincerely,

dr Sir,
your most obt servt,
Ev: McPherson.[1]

Cluny, 6th Augt. 1745.

No. LXXXVIII.

John Gordon of Cluny to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Sir,

I shall write my friend at Edinr to give my Lord Elchies the payment of my bill as you desire: I hope money may answer sooner than you mention; but if times continue . . . . . ., I'm afraid things may continue at a stand: for this while past no money has been payed at Edinr. However, I hope our fears that way shall be at ane end, and that people will have liberty to goe about their business at that place. I offer my service to your lady, and am respectfully,

Sir,
your most humble servt,
John Gordon.

Boat of Brig, 20th Novr, 1745.

Endorsed by R. G.:—Jo. Gordon's letter promising to pay the contents of his bill to me to Lord Elches at Edr. 1745.

[1]Acting Chief of his Clan, and the devoted adherent of Prince Charles, who had then landed in Scotland on his ill-fated enterprise.

No. LXXXIX.

ALEXR. GRANT of Dalrachnie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Castle Grant, 31st Decr, 1745.

Dr Sir,

As you are to pay @ rents to Peter Grant, Culivulen, I thought proper to send you the inclosed bill to give in part payt which I was obliged to take or want so much of the price of Lord Elchies's meale, and qch you may give with a good grace in payt of @ rents to Peter. You shall have all the money I can collect nixt week. The two letters you had last from Ld. Elchies came under covers to me. The President forgot to send that of the oldest date 'till Sir Archbald Grant went their. No newes here. I am,

dr Sir,
your aff. sert,
ALEXR. GRANT.

I wish you'd order one to Elgin for a spining wheel Wm Spark has . . . for my wife, and send 5 sh. ster. along with it.

No. XC.

ANDREW HAY (? of Montblairy) to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dear Sir,-

There are peremptor orders sent to me and some other of the Justices of the countys of Aberdeen and Banff to provide corn and straw for the regular army to be carried by the country to the seall places where they halt; and we think that the nearest places for the parish of Inveraven to transport the fforrage is ffochabers; and therefore I thought it proper to advise you of this that you may cause Lord Elchies' and Ballindalloch's tennents of Aberlour and Inveraven have in readiness one boll of oats and sixty stone of straw upon each £100 of valued rent to be carried to ffochabers upon the least notice given you. The orders sent to us is that everything is to be done under the pain of military execution qch I'm sure you will prevent. Every heritor within the seall

countys gives the same quantity besides ten loads of peats up [on] each £100 of valued rent.

The price to be payed is £6 for the boll of oats, and two pence the stone of oat straw, and three half pennies for the stone of bear straw: this is all I need say but that I truely am,

dear Sir,

yours,

Rothiemay, 12 March, 1746. AND: HAY.

No. XCI.

JOHN and WM. OGILVIE, Sheriffs-Depute of Banff, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

No doubt you received our letter of the 13th with a copy of Lord ffindlater's orders to us with respect to the fforage for his Majesty's army to be carried to the shoar of Buckie. You'll observe that we are appointed to name visitors for inspecting the barns and barn yeards who are to report on oath what quantity each heretor's land can furnish. Wee wrote my Lord ffindlater under Tochieniel's cover, acquainting what we had done, and those we had named in this lower part of the county as visitors, but it would appear by Tochieniel's to us (a copy of which is inclosed, and to which we referr) that it's necessar visitors should be named in the head of the county, and as Tochieniel reccomends that to be done by you as a fitt person, wee hope you'll take that trouble upon you, as you know the situation of the country better, and the persons that are fit for being visitors. You'll see the necessity of our orders being speedily and carefully execute, and wee have no doubt but you'll do what's in your power to be assisting that way, and are,

Sir,

your most humble servants,

JOHN OGILVIE.

Banff, 17th Aprile, 1746. WILLM. OGILVIE.

P.S.—The parishes in the upper part of the shire in which you may name the visitors are, Boharm, Boatrifnie, Mortlich, Skirduston, Inveravine, Kirkmichael.

No. XCII.

ALEXR. GRANT of Tochieniel to JOHN and WM. OGILVIE, Sheriffs-Depute of Banff.

Gentlemen,

I had a letter from Lord ffindlater this day constituting Baillie Dunbar their Receiver of the fforage at shoar of Buckie, and you may cause Ld Braco and the whole other heretors of the county send in their proportions and they will be received.

As it will occasion a considerable delay to wait my Lord ffindlater's orders for visitors of the cornyeards of the parishes in the head of the county, it is my opinion you should write Tomore that it will be a ffavour done my Lord to name visitors in these parts, and if you please may write him further to cause the heretors in the severall corners in these places bring down their proportions without delay. Jo. Strachan in Burnmouth, whom you have named as a visitor here, and in some other parishes, being presently much distress'd and unnable to travell, I'll be obliged to constitute Jo. Stenson in Killbrae to act in his place, whom I hope you'll approve of, and remain, with best wishes to you both and families,

yours,

ALEXANDER GRANT.[1]

Cullen, Aprile 17th, 1746.

To Messrs. John & William Ogilvies, Shirriffs Depute of Banff.

Endorsed:—Copy letter—Mr Grant, Tochieniell, to Messrs. John & Wm. Ogilvies. 1746.

[1]Factor for the Earl of Findlater and Seafield. "The Annals of Banff" (New Spalding Club), I, 213.

No. XCIII.

A List of Strawe sent out of Morrings[1] to the Shore of Buckie, Aprile 18th 1746:

From Pat: Grant in Corlach, and John Grant in Mullachard—fourty two ston weight.
Fourty two ston out of the plough of the Coulls.
Andrew Smith in Corshellach, twenty foure ston weight.

Upon the 26th April:

From John Grant in Laggavach and Ballagan, fourty two ston weight;
Mains and Stronefoch, fourty two ston weight.

In whole sent to Buckie for the use of his Highness the Duck of Cumerland horses out of Morrings—192 ston weight.

The people of Tomreav sent none as yet, qch should be 18 ston weight.

192
18

210

No. XCIV.

John and Wm. Ogilvie, Sheriffs-Depute of Banff, to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Sir,

Wee received yours of the 19th current with which we have duly comply'd by naming the persons you sent us account of for the parish of Inveravine, Skirduston, and Kirkmichael; and have sent herewith their severall powers to act by inclosed for causing you deliver them, which you know they must comply with on their highest perril; and how soon they execute their o[rder]s, we intreat you'll cause them give in to you signed reports upon oath as the warrands bear, and which you may transmitt to us

[1]Morinsh in the parish of Inveravon, formerly owned by the Nairn family, has long formed part of the Ballindalloch Estate.

by first opportunity, because we are obliged to lay all before the Earle of ffindlater. Wee have sent the like orders to the parishes of Boharm, Boatrifnie, Mortlich, and likeways to Keith. The minister of Boharm has power from us to name visitors for that parish who are known to be men well affected to the Government. Hary Miln, factor to Drummuir, has orders to name visitors for Boatrifnie parish; Lessmurdie to name visitors for the parish of Mortlich; and William Taylor in Keith, as the Earle of ffindlater's Barron Baillie there, to name visitors for Keith, to all whom we have wrote to be carefull the visitors be all well affected to His Majesty and Government. Whatever charges you are at in this matter, send us a note of, and you shall be reimbursed.

Wee make offerr of our compliments to your lady and family, and shall be glade of any opportunity to serve you in this corner. Wee are,

Sir,
your most humble serts,
JOHN OGILVIE.
WILLM. OGILVIE.

Banff, 20th Aprile, 1746.

Endorsed:—To Robert Grant Esquire off Tammore—Per express.

No. XCV.

WM. OGILVIE, Sheriff-Depute of Banff, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Banff, May 6th, 1746.

Sir,

In my brother's absence I have consider'd your letter directed to him and me, wherein you send me inclosed a note of what forrage was to be carried from the parishes of Skirdustan, Inveraven, and Kirkmichael to the shore of Buckie conform to the Earle of Findlater's appointment and the visitors' report.

It was indeed thought absolutely necessary by the Earle when this order was granted, that a considerable magazine shou'd be laid in att the shore of Buckie for the service of the King's army while they lay at Inverness; but now we find that the forrage

already carried there cannot be transported except att a very extraordinary expence, and, besides, the straw that has remain'd there so long has proved altogether useless for the service of the troops, and therefore I cannot think of putting you to the trouble of carrying any more to that place; because, in the first place, I'm afraid there will be but little probability of their getting payment, since it wou'd not serve the army. But if your people can be prevail'd on to bring it to this place where there is just now a troup and a half of dragoons quarter'd, and a new order from one of the Commissarys to lay in a magazine here of three thousand stone of straw, they will be sure to receive good payment for it. This you'll please communicate to the several heritors, their factors, or principal tennents, in the above nam'd parishes: if this they do not agree to, themselves must take care of the consequences.

I have paid the express the half crown as you ordered. I am with respect,

Sir,
your very humble servt,
WILLM. OGILVIE.

Endorsed by R. G.:—Shireff of Bamff and Justices of Peace orders annent stra for his Majestie's army. 1746.

No. XCVI.

Miss MARGARET GRANT, Lord Elchies' daughter, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Inverlaidnen, May 9, 1746.

Sir,

I should have waited your home coming from Elchies, had I not been affraid ye would put your selfe to the trouble of seing me to Inverlaidnen: I thought ye had but too much fatigue this year. Fondness for health made me chuse the place where I immagion'd the best goat why was, though perhaps it is but whim. I drink it in the morning, dinner, and supper, and have great hopes of getting good health. Pleass tell mama when ye see her that I have never slipt one opportunity I could think of, of writting to her or papa, but have not receved a letter from them

since Mr Grant's servt was south. Ihon Grant indeed told me he had letters, but was oblidg'd to burne them. I'll want no money till I see you in the begining of Jully. I fancy by that time ye may be return'd from the south, and though I'm much affraid ye intend to give up papa's bussness, yet as I know it would be such a loss to papa, I'm lothe to allow my selfe to think ye will put your desighn in execution. Make my complents to Mrs Grant; tell her she might have waited till ane opportunity had offr'd for sending my aunt's cloaths and mine, and not have given her selfe the trouble to send so fare a waye. I am, thank God, very well in my health. I am, Sir,

your most sincere friend and humble servt,

M. GRANT.

Endorsed by R. G.:—Miss Pegie Grant's letter of the 9th May, 1746.

No. XCVII.

JOHN GRANT of Delnabo to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

Your friend Alexr Gordon of Craigwillie was brought here Saturday last among the prisoners from Abn. I did not know of his being among them till Sunday when I went down and saw him, and upon Monday morning, before I had time to make any application for him, accidently gote notice that he was one of those to be liberate upon baill. I dont know to whom we owe this unless it be the person I myself have been often obliged to upon your recomendation. Notwithstanding the resolution to admit him to baill was so early, yet I could not get the warrand for his liberation sooner than this afternoon. I am baill for him for £100 sterling. Ballindalloch is in town, but I have not yet seen him, but I hear he is well. Give my service to Mrs Grant and Willie. I am,

dr Sir,

your affect. humble sert,

JOHN GRANT.

Edinr, 7 August, 1746.

No. XCVIII.

JOHN GRANT, younger, of Easter Elchies, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dear Sir,

When last I engag'd to write you, little, alass! did I think of this melancholy occasion where my duty oblidges me to the most ungratefull task of informing you of the most dismall event could befall our poor disconsolate family, which was this day depriv'd by a feaver of the most indulgent, the best of mothers, who hath left my father a distress'd widow, and us helpless, almost orphans. May God Almighty enable us to support under, and improve this heavy stroke.

This calls for our friends' sympathy, and I am assur'd of yours, which will pardon my transports. I am, dear Sir,

your most obedient and most afflicted sert,

JOHN GRANT.

Edinr, Decr 8, 1746.

No. XCIX.

JOHN GRANT, younger, of Easter Elchies, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dear Sir,

I receiv'd your letter by Lauchlan Grant, which is the third you wrote me without receiving any answer, and the reason I did not write you sooner was that I could not sooner give you that satisfaction in my answer I intended, on account of Lauchlan's having gone north before I had that letter informing me of your having that money you have been so good as to borrow for me; and, along with your letter anent the creditors of Cluny McPherson, I receiv'd a letter from Lauchlan with a memorial and queries, which differ'd from your accounts of the fact, calling the Duke

of Gordon's process a declarator of non-entry and an improbation. This oblidg'd me to apply to the Duke's doers for a sight of the summons, as it was of the greatest importance to the creditors to know the nature of his suit, which, I found, was a declarator of property, and consequent action of mails and duties on the Clan Act made on occasion of the Rebellion 1715; wherefor I made an appointment with Mr Lockart, as Laughlan desir'd, in order to answer the memoriall and queries.

And as Laughlan, having accidentally arriv'd the same night, is to send you by this post our answers, it will be needless to add anything concerning that affair, as they are pretty full, only in generall: The creditors ought at present, I imagine, to ly by, as it is neither their interest, nor have they any title to oppose the Duke of Gordon in the above declarator, in which, if he succeed, he will thereby become lyable, by the Act of Parliat under which he claims, to them for the value of the estate and his intromissions. But, on the other hand, as it is doubtfull whether the Clan Act was only a temporary law respecting forfietures in consequence of the Rebellion 1715, which was hatching, and suspected, when, and in respect of which this Act seems to have been made; or if it is a perpetuall law. If the Duke of Gordon fail in his suit, there will occur a question of some difficulty: whether the Crown or Donator of the forfeiture will be lyable for the personall debts of persons attainted for high treason *ad valorem* of their estates to witt. And this difficulty, I have good reason to believe, will soon be superseded by an Act of Parliament anent the creditors of forfeited persons, the event of which I think the creditors ought to wait. I imagine it is of no consequence how long Cluny junr was apparent heir, as if the estate could be forfeited for his crime, there seems to be little doubt but it may likeways be affected for his debts. However, it would be proper to recover his contract of marriage, if possible, which must be done in an extrajudiciall way, as the crers have no title to raise a process of exhibition thereof at present, although, were they in a process for recovery of their debts, they would get a diligence for that purpose. With respect to the method of bringing a process for recovery of the creditors' debts, I have nothing to add to what is said in the answers, and might have spared myself the trouble of saying anything on this head, which I have alone done for your satisfaction if my letter should come to hand before Lauchlan's with the memorial, queries, and answers, which are pretty full.

With respect to the money you wrote me you had given Lauchlan, I shall not trouble you and Dalrachnie with thanks for your goodness, as I imagine it would not be agreable, nor do you doubt my gratitude. I have not been able to get anything settl'd, or indeed a word of Lauchlan, concerning that affair, since he came to town, but shall adjust every thing before next post, when I shall write you, and against that time, consider whether I shall put Balnadalloch to the trouble you write me he would be so good as to be att, in assisting me to get entirely out of the bank's debt.

I have not yet receiv'd that letter you say in your last you wrote me anent a person for whom you interest your self in order to procure his liberation; however, I'll inform my self of his name from Lauchlan, if he knows it, and you may be certain of all the interest I can make (which is excessively little) for any body you are concern'd in.

My father hath had a cholick hanging about him for some days, and, although he is better, is not entirely recover'd of it yet. My brother Davie, too, is a good deal out of order; but whether it will prove a fever, or what it will turn out, I believe his physicians are at a loss to know. Your son, Willie, is extreamly well.

My compliments to Mrs Grant, Balnadalloch and my Lady. I am, dear Sir,

your most obedient hule sert,

JOHN GRANT.

Edinr, Jary 15, 1747.

No. C.

LACHLAN GRANT of Gartinbeg to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

You have inclosed the bond by our friend Mr John Grant you[nge]r of Elchies to Delrachny for the £150 str. which I got from you upon the 6th of Janry last upon my receipt, so yt I expect in course of post you'l transmitt my receipt. Mr McMillan is att Invernes as I understand, enquiring into the state of the prisoners

. . . ite by express about our friend, and am c . . . will do all the service in his power; and wt compliments to Mrs Grant, I am,

d. S.

your most obed. sert,

LACHLAN GRANT.

Cullen, 19 Feb. 1747.

Endorsed by R. G.:—L. Grant's letter with Jo. Grant's bond to Delrachnie for £150, which bond I am to deliver up on Delrachnie's giving me a declaratione that the bond is in his name only in trust for the behoof of Mr Ja. Baird alias Lessly or his asignes, and an oyr bond of £56 from the sd Mr Jo. Grant is also in trust for the sd Ja. Baird alias L.

No. CI.

WM. GRANT, younger, of Tammore to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Father,

I had yours by last post, and imediatly told Mr John Grant that William Grant was at Inverness, and this day my Lord told me that he had gote an order to liberat him, and had sent it to you: you wrote me last that he was to be caried here, which was the reason the warand was not sent sooner, for we did not know where to finde him. I belive I can asshure you that Mr Gray, Lord Elches' chaplan, will be minister of Rothes, and I am sory for it if I could help it, as I think it might have been served nearer home. Lethen is very well, and sends his service to you. Lord Elches' ffamily left the town this day, and are all weell. Betty Grant, Daski's daughter, desyred me remember you of what you promised her, as her uncle is just now north. Miss Grant laid out for Lady Ballindalloch one pound nine shillings sterling. Delnaboe is not in town at present, but will be in nixt week, when I shall answer yours more fully. I am sory to tell you that your ffreind, George Gordon, dyed last week. I am,

dr Father,

your affect. and obedient son,

WILL. GRANT.

Edinr, 26 March, 1747.

I have sent you the inclosed observations as I thought you would be glaid to see it; pray as soon as you read it, send it to Mr Latoe at Castle Grant.

Endorsed by R. G.:—Willy's letter of the 26th March shewing that he gave Miss Grant £1. 9 st. to be laid out for La: Ballindalloch. 1747.

No. CII.

ROBERT GARDINER to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Mr. Grant, Edinr. 7th May, 1747.

Sir,

As Mr. Lawrence Dundas, Commissary of Forrage has bargain'd with my Lord Elchies for eight hundred bols oatmeal which his Lordship was to have delivered to General Guest, you'l apply to Mr. John Frigg at Findhorn, agent for Mr Dundas, and he will receive it from you at Garmouth at the time I shall afterwards acquaint you of. Take his receipt or the receipt of the person whom he shall appoint to receive the cargoe; and the same shall be a sufficient voucher of the quantity to be delivered. I shall give you a fortnight's notice of the time it must [be] delivered; and am,

Sr,
your most humble sert,
ROBERT GARDINER
for Commissary Dundas.

No. CIII.

JAMES LESLIE to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dear Sir,

Must beg the favour of you to give Dalrachnie up his bond granted to me, as he hase fullie satisfied me for principall and interest; and at the same time get a letter from him showing that the two bonds granted him by Mr John Grant, Advocate, is only in trust and that the money belongs properlie to me: you may readilie belive it is much contrary to my inclination giveing you

so much trouble, but as my present scituation makes it inconvenient for me to look after my litle affairs, must beg to be excused. Offer my most dutiefull respects to my good freind Mrs. Grant. I ame, with the outmost sincerity,

dear Sir,
you most oblidged and aff. humble sert,
JAMES LESLIE.[1]

Inverlydnan, 1st June, 1747.

No. CIV.

JOHN FRIGGE to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Forress, June 10th, 1747.

Sir,

I wrote you a short line this day from Inverness p. Capt. David Gilchrist who sailes morrow morning for Gairmouth to receive the 800 bols oat meall: I therefor begg you'l dispatch the ship without loss of time. I cou'd not write you sooner as I only got the order from Generall Blakney this morning, and then afterward confirmed by Mr Dundass. I intreat as this is for the use of the army that the meall be quite good and sweet for severall reasons, and if this pleases, as I hope it will, it will be a mean that Mr Dundass may make ane anuall bargaine. I have sent this to Robert Masson as you desire to be forward you the morrow early. Mr Gilchrist's recept will be sufficient. I am respectfully,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
JOHN FRIGGE.

Endorsed:—To Robert Grant of Tamore Esqe. p. express.

Also by R. G.:—Mr. Jo. ffrigg's letter of the 10th June advising that Capt. David Gilchrist was to saill next day to Garmouth to take in 800 bolls of Lo/ Elches' meall. 1747.

[1]Mr. Leslie appears to have been factor for Henrietta, Duchess Dowager of Gordon at Prestonhall. The Duchess wrote to Tammore from that place on 1st March, 1749:—"My sonn Ld Lewis to my great greiff is in a badd state of health, and has call'd for my sarvant, James Lesly, who goes to him tomorrow; so yt I shall have occastion for one in a gentleman's station. I have aquainted Mr. Gordon late curator with what his bussiness is, and what his wages are to be; so I refere you to him for farther information in case you show'd know a proper person."

No. CV.

JOHN GRANT of Ballimore to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Belimore, 4th Jully, 1747.

Dr Sir,

I saw Jason March[1] this afternoon after comeing from Elchies, and he told me that he saw the two cows that you wrot me about; and I have sent the bearer for them, and this will oblidge me to pay you the price you demand for them at first meeting; and as to your wadders, I am of oppinion that sending them to Fort Augustus would be the only place you would best gett them sold att: I shall send notice yr to know what price they would bestow on you, and if I find it encouradgeing, I shall send you notice. As to what you writ me about sending you notice of the price of your dealls and flaick barrs, I have fonds belonging to you, that I receved last week from Miltoun of Duthell upon your account, more then what will pay the price of your timber, and the balance I will clear you at meeting: the sum I receved from Miltoun is £17. 15 Scots money. If you can get me ane oyr right cow at your market a Tuesday, pray be so good as buy one for me, for it's not in my power to goe there my self as you propose. If you could send me the use of Willy's setting dogg for some few days, I should take speciale care of him.

I am, dr Sir,

yours etc.

JOHN GRANT.

Endorsed by R. G.:—Bellimore's letter of the 11th (*sic*) for 2 milk cows belonging to Lord Elches at £3 15/- sterling. 1747. This money is payd, and the letter to be given up by Rob: Grant.

[1]Of the York Buildings Company.

No. CVI.

James Leslie to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Tamore, 13th Jully, 1747.

Received from Robert Grant of Tamore all the papers he hade of mine in keeping, and in particular a bond granted to me by Andrew Hay, younger of Rannes, for sixtie one pound twelve shillings and sixpence sterling, dated the seventh day of Aprile one thousand seven hundred and fourtie one years, payable to me my heirs exrs at Martimess then next to come with @ rent from the date together with a bond granted by Mr John Grant younger of Elches, advocat, for fiftie six pound seventain shillings and sixpence money forsd granted to Alexr Grant of Dalrachnie dated the first day of Nover last payable to him his heirs exrs and assignies at Whitsunday next to come with @ rent from Martimess preceeding the date; as also ane other bond granted by the sd Mr. John Grant to the sd Mr Alexr Grant for one hundred and fiftie pound money forsd dated the thirtieth day of Janry one thousand seven hundred and fourtie seven years payable to the sd Alexr Grant his heirs exors and assignies at the terme of Lamess next to come with @ rent from the sixt day of the sd moneth of Jary last. Received also a declaration by way of obligation, granted by the sd Alexr Grant of Dalrachnie, declareing that the sd two bonds granted to him by the sd Mr John Grant were in his name only in trust, and that the money did properlie belong to me, and promiseing that he his heirs exrs and successors wou'd assigne the said two bonds to me my heirs and exrs when required thereto dated the third day of June one thousand seven hundred and fourtie seven years; and I hereby promise to deliver up to the sd Rob: Grant of Tammore all leters or receipts of money preceeding this date, because he hase delivered up my papers, and accompted for any other transactions betwixt him and me.

James Leslie.

Endorsed by R. G.:—James Lessly's declaratione of the recept of his papers. 1747.

No. CVII

ALEXR. GRANT of Dalrachnie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

Yours of the 28th came here just now; the contents gives all of us a great deal of joy, but particularly to Lisie Syme,[1] who no longer doubts of getting a husband to her mind how soon her fortune is publishd, which I shall take care to do without loss of tyme; and I don't know but I may get a grassum for letting a liferent tack of her. She shall wryte to her uncle at Glass as you advise, and to Lord Elchies thanking him for his kindness. I fancy the later will settle the money till she get a husband to raise it.

I'me glad our countrymen behaved well tho' it's certain they have suffered much. Our ffreinds in the Royalls and Highland Regiments are, I hear, in Bergen-op-soom, which is probably or now in the hands of the ffrench: it was not in there power to retreat, so I'me hopefull they are all of them prissoners of warr. May God bring us peace—wee have no bussieness to feight on the continent.

I shall have 8 or 10 fine oxen to dispose off, qch if you don't buy, I know they will sell well at a low country merket. I am,

dr Sir,
yours,

Inverlaidnen, 30th July, 1747. ALEXR. GRANT.

No. CVIII.

Rev. WALTER SIME, Minister of Mortlach, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

When I came home Friday night I found yours of ye ijth by qch and what was written on ye end of it I see my Lord Elchies

[1]Under date of 26th June, 1738, the same writer wrote to Tammore:—"You owe 2 bolls meale to Mrs Rankan qch with the 2 bolls formerly sent to me, makes up Elis. Sym's board for ½ year, qch is now out; she wants it just now, so pray send it to her; and let me know if you will continue her longer at that school."

reckons my letter to you dark, and you tell me he understands not my meaning.

As I had no reason nor inclination to intend darkness in what I wrote you, the difference 'twixt what you wrote as the tenor of Mr Grant's letter to my Lord anent receiving and discharging that money transmitted, and the tenor of the letter sent me by Mr Barclay who pays the money was such, that perhaps thinking of it my expression yranent might be improper, as I am litle seen into business; but as Mr Barclay's letter appears very plain, if my Lord is to be this vacancy in the north, shal wait of him and show it; and if not, shal send a copy yrof to some proper person at Edbr to be shown his Lop. Meantime when you come first downward to Edenvilly or Elchies, shal meet you where you will and show you all I have heard about my brother's affairs since his death, viz: two letters from one I never saw, and have no secret with, to be . . . . . of darkness or mystery; and I reckon in our conversa . . . may see yr is none. My compliments to Mrs Grant, and I am,

Sir,
your most humble sert,
WAL: SIME.

Mortlach, Agt 18th, 1747.

No. CIX.

ROBERT GRANT of Tammore to JAMES GRANT of Rothiemurchus.

Tomoir, No/ 28ht, 1747.

Dr Rothey,

The bearer John Gordon in Drumferg deliver'd me your letter with £200 for which I have sent a bill of this date on Lord Elches payable to you or order for value at 3 days sight qch you may indorse, and will answer when presented. I have no use for any more money for bills; if your sone's tocher happens to be payd, he may have use for some part of it in the countrey, and may give you bills. But pray why doe you say that you'r not concern'd how he disposes of that money? I wish you would tell me who is so much concern'd: I wrote him to come down here

for this money, and expect him or somebody for the money this night. My complements to Lady Rothimurchus, and I am,

dr Rothy,

yours,

Rob: Grant.

No. CX.

John Gordon of Cluny to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I understand there's a meeting appointed of the heiritors of Dundurkus for settling the repair of the Kirk and manse. Give me leave therefore to recommend the bearer John Chalmers, masson here, to your interest, for being undertaker of the whole work: I have employ'd him before, and I must doe him justice to own that he gave full satisfaction to all concern'd in his performance. It seems the last undertakeing was extreamly ill execute, which occasions this new charge again to the heiritors so soon, which I'm convinc'd will be a beacon to evite the like danger, and induce imploying a sufficient man, which you may at my perril recommend the bearer to be for anything he shall undertake. I hope you'l forgive this trouble and allow me to continue,

dr Sir,

your most obt humble sert.,

John Gordon.

Fochrs, 30th ffeb, 1748.

No. CXI.

Sir Harry Innes, Bart., to Robert Grant of Tammore.

Dear Sir,

I am glad to find that Mr John Grant, Lord Elchies' son, is named Shirive for this cownty. I am informed he is soon to be in this town: if he has not alrady fixed uppon sum person for his Depute, I should be glad he did not determine himself wntill

I had the pleasure of sceeing him which I am advised will be this week. If the incuragement for a Depute is worth while, I think the person I have to propose has as good a character as most or any in these parts, but dow not chouse to name him wnless I was sure the place was not filled up—Make my compleaments to Mr Grant, and tell him I expect he will make my house his quarters when he comes hear.

Believe me,
dr Sir,
your most humble sert.
HARIE INNES.

Elgin, March 3th, 1748.

No. CXII.

JOHN GORDON of Cluny to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I understand Mr Grant, Lord Elchies's sone, is named Sherriff for Murray and Nairn, who surely will have the nameing of his own Clerk: at least none will be offer'd him he'l object to. Your accquaintance, John Gordon in Craighiehead,[1] would be very ffitt for the employment, and very serviceable and obliging to the Judge: in many things he would make him easie, being experiencd not only in the formes of that Court, but allso versant and well accquainted in countrie affairs such as mostly ocurr there. If it was not going too farr, I would earnestly solicite your interest with Lord Elchies in his behalf. He will be extreamly gratefull him self and I shall state upon it as ane obligation of my own, which if ever in my power shall be gratefully repayed. I hope you'l pardon my freedom and allow me to continue,

dr Sir,
your most obt humble sert,
JOHN GORDON.

Fochrs, 1st Aprile, 1748.

[1] In his endorsement on the letter, Tammore refers to him as "Achinreith."

No. CXIII.

JOHN GORDON of Cluny to (?)LUDOVICK GRANT of Knockando.

Fochrs, 17 Aprile, 1748.

Sir,

I hereby agree for and accept of the three hundred bolls meall at eight stone weight p. boll commun'd upon wt, and writen anent to Mr Robert Grant of Tammoir as doer for me, delyverable at the harbour of Garmouth any time after the first of June next on eight days' advertisment by you and Lewis Grant Esqr of Wester Elchies to me or my order; ffor which three hundred bolls of meall so to be delyvered, I oblige me to pay you and him the sd Lewis Grant . . . and to your rexive proportions thereof one hundred ffifty pounds sterline money as the totall agreed price of the full quantity at the terme of Martinmass next, being conforme to Wester Elchies's letter to Tamoir, 12 currt., six punds Scots pr boll without any bounty or gratuity.

When the meall is delyvered, I'm satisfied, if requir'd, to grant bills, and to take up both this ler and oyr coppie hereof of the same date sent Wester Elchies here inclos'd to be forewarded by you, and I have accquainted Tammoir of my having thus accepted of yr termes. I am respectfully etc.

No. CXIV.

JAMES LESLIE to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Prestonhall, 15th August, 1748.

Dear Sir,

I received yours of the 31st of May some time agoe, and would have made a return befor now could I have got anything certain to say concerning Alexr Gordon Craigwillie's affair: there is nothing as yet done, but I expect Dellnabo here soon when I hope there will be an end put to it. I hade the inclosed letter from And: Hay of Rannas, and according to it has made ane assignation of his bond to me in favours of Charles Hay of Rannas, which with the bond itself I herein send you, and I beg the favour you would as soon as possible see to meet with Rannas, and get payment from him of the contents of the bond, and when that is got

done, as I have already a sum in the hands of Mr John Grant, advocate, I would be willing to add the sum in this bond so as the whole might be in one hand. But at the same time, as this is all in the world I have to depend upon, I will insist that I get some other sufficient person bound in the security, not for any doubt I have of Mr Grant's own credit, of which I have not the least scruple, but upon account of the risque of his happening to dye befor his father (which God forbid) and therefor I expect Mr Grant will make no difficultie to gratifie me in this, since it proceeds from nothing else then anxiety to have a small sum for which I have been serving all my life secured in the best manner. Offer my compliements to Mrs Grant and your son, and belive me to be most sincerlie,

Dear Sir,
your most obedient humble sert,
JAMES LESLIE.

[P.S.]—Dear Sir,

Your freind Delnabo hase been with the Dutchess of Gordon this day, and her Grace hase been most favourable in Craigwillie's affair: I need not mention particulars as Delnabo is to writ you soon, and inform you of all that past; but one thing I can assure you that he is well pleased.

Agust 20, 1748.

No. CXV.

Rev. WALTER SIME, Minister of Mortlach, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

Yours of the twenty fourth is just now put in my hands qrby you acquaint me ye bearer has a receipt from my niece for twenty pounds ster. qch she wants to have from me.

I have not yet seen Alexr Stuart of Edenglassie[1] since last session; but he having wrote the affair 'twixt her and me, he

[1] A tombstone in the Churchyard of Strathdon bears the following:—"This monument is erected by Alex. Stuart of Edinglassie to the memory of Margaret Cranstown his wife, a person honbly descended, politely educated, judicious, prudent and agreeable; esteemed and regarded: She died June 22, aged 45, A.D. 1752. The said Alex. Stuart Esq. writer to the signet, a man eminent in his profession, much esteemed and universally regretted, died the 19th day of Septr. aged 87 years, A.D. 1787.

thought Lord Elchies would bring it to a period when in the north, and as I'm inform'd he is to wait of my Lord when at Abdn for that end, how soon I hear it's ended, I shal endeavour to make a clearance, qch is all I need write on that subject at present. My complts to Mirs. Grant; and I am,

Sir,
your most humble servt,

Mortlach, Sepr 29th, 1748. WAL. SIME.

No. CXVI.

Sir LUDOVICK GRANT of Grant, Bart., to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

London, Feb 17th, 1749.

Dr Sir,

I had the pleasure of yours of the 3d with one inclosed for Mr Grant of Delvy, which I delivered him this morning. I likewayes received a letter from you and one from your son some time after I came here putting me in minde to gett recommendations from my friends at the Board of Trade in favours of your nephew, Robert Grant, chyrurgeon in Nova Scotia, which I would have done, but befor I came to town, Mr Grant of Delvy told me he had gott the strongest recommendations sent him from Lord Hallifax, and that I needed not applie my Lord further about him. However, I spoke to my Lord Duppline since in his favours tho' I claim and desire noe merite in being one that from first to last has let the Board know he is a young man in whose meetting with the proper incouragement and favour from them will be ane obligation done me; and you may depend that from time to time, if there is occation, I will doe all I can to serve him; but indeed Mr Grant, Delvy, has left me little to doe, and I have told him that you are verie gratefull. I hope you'll make my appologie to your son for not writeing him. Capt. Grant, Bellindalloch's brother, is here, and is verie well. I was glade to hear that all our friends at Bellindalloch are well. Major Grant joins my wife and me in offering you and Mrs Grant our best compliments. I ever am, dr Sir,

sincerelie yours,
LUD: GRANT.

No. CXVII.

ROBERT GRANT, W.S., Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

Your friend Mr. James Leslie has this day taken journey for London, from whence he is to goe over the water; and he desired me to transmitt to you the inclosed factory, and begg'd me to write you to see to get something done with Rannas as he expects to be oblieged to pay away that money, probably at Whitsunday, or at furthest against Mertimas next. My wife offers you and Mrs. Grant her most affectionate service, as I also doe, and am,

d. S.
your most humble servtt,

Edinbr. 2d March, 1749. ROB: GRANT.

I sent a power of actorney to be signed by Dellay for giveing in his claim upon Clunie: I have given in the claim, but am oblieged to return the power of actorney on account it was wrong signed. I wish you would be so good as send for him, and see to cause him now sign it right according to the directions I have given, which I have left open.

No. CXVIII.

Captain ALEXR. GRANT of Ballindalloch to JOHN PROCTOR, Notary, Clayfurr, Easter Elchies.

Ballindalloch, 28 October, 1749.

Sir,

Having occasion for a Judiciall Rentall of my estate I hereby commission authorise and appoint you to be my Barron Baillie over my lands and estate of Ballindalloch and others within the shires of Elgin and fforres and Banff, with powers to name a Clerk and other officers of Court for the purpose abovementioned: And this shall be sufficient warrant from,

Sir,
your most humble sert,

To John Proctor,
Notar in Clayfurr. ALEXR. GRANT.

No. CXIX.

JAMES GRANT of Rothiemurchus to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I was heartily sorry to have missed you at Huntly Castle, as I would have told you some things I want to have you writ to her Grace off which I will not commit to paper, as I designe, God willing, to be with you at Elchies this day seven night, if health and the weather allow. As to Ld. Elchies, Peter[1] will satisfy him in a security, and I think he is to pay the Dutchess and Achoynanie with the money if his Edinburgh journey does not help to exhaust it. I have not seen Spynie since, but I shall crave him every day till I see you. I am on heast, so only in my name and Jean Gordon's and Hennie's wish you and Misrs. Grant a Merry Christmass and a good New Year. And I am, dr Sir,

yours etc,

Huntly Castle, Decr 20th, 1749. JAMES GRANTT.[2]

No. CXX.

ALEXR. GRANT of Dalrachnie to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Inverlaidnen, 3d Feb: 1750.

Dr Sir,

I had yours by Ballindalloch's post last Sunday. I had a letter from Miss Grant since I saw you: she says that she and Lady Rothiemurchies mend dayly, but mentions nothing of her brother's dyet north. I shall probably know from Peter by first post how they all are, and when the Shirreff comes north, which I shall advise you off.

Rob. Craignook was here. I writt to John Proctor to direct them to serve ane edict Sunday first, and confirm upon their ffather's subject qch will take the dominion owt of the old divle's

[1]Presumably Patrick, yr., of Rothiemurchus, who had married Lord Elchies' daughter, Helen.

[2]James Grant of Rothiemurchus was factor for Henrietta, Duchess Dowager of Gordon. The Duchess wrote to Tammore on 1st March, 1749:—"As you had the goodness formarly to atend and advice about ye rooping of my tacks, there will soon be an adverticement to you from my factor Rothemurkus, and it will be doeing me a great favour that you atend."

hands if he does not agree to a referrence and quiet division of goods. Best wishes to Meg up by, and I am, dr Sir,

yours faithfully,

ALEXR. GRANT.

No. CXXI.

PATRICK DUFF, sometime in Conrack, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

You or any reasonable man must oune that I mett with very uncoumon and unprecedented usage while I haid the misfortoun to be Lord Elchies' tenant, and the reason is obvious to any right thinking person why it was so. Every tenant thought he had a just title to push at me as his malishous temper and covitous disposition derected him. However, I shall not insist on that subject at preasent. You'l no doubt mind I haid a coummening with William Wright before you about the mill moulters for this crop in the yeard of Conrack. The very nixt time I haid an opourtunity of seeing him, I agreed with him for two bols of meall and free me, which I am still willing to give any time he pleases, yet notwithstanding that promise of his, he has summoned me before the Shirreff Court, and in his charge claims four bols for the moultoure, so if you will bee at the trouble to interfeer bettwen us and take away the thing in a just and faire way, it is good; if not, I most stand my chance. I wish you would think upon this thing whither William Wright or John Proctor has the right to it, and write me, as your letter, if you pleass, will desid the diference; for I understand that John Proctor has spock to William Wright not to agree with me wouthout him, but it is the same thing to me which of them gett the moulter if it be taken off my hand and I warranded from truble afterwards. And as for the ferin I am yett due, you need be in no manner affraid about it: I shall paye it in to your grandery without giving you the least trouble on that acount. Let me have your answer per the bearer, as you answer is the rule I intend to walk by if it be but reasonable, as I want nothing but justice. I am,

Sir, yours to serve you,

PEITT. DUFF.

Endorsed:—To Robert Grant Esqr of Tamor.

No. CXXII.

JOHN DUFF, Elgin, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I am favour'd wt yours and got from Elchies 1½ guinnea as the second moity of Lord Elchies' contribution for opposing the Clargie's Scheme for which you have my receipt inclos'd, also Baillie Grant's for two years' Bishoprents payable out of Easter Elchies. I have given Elchies' servant 4 ounce salt peter. Please send in with your convenience the year's cess that will fall due on Ballindalloch and Struthers the 25th March next: it's the same as last year. My compliments to Mrs. Grant, and I am,

dr Sir,
your most obedt humble sert,
JOHN DUFF.

Elgin, Feb. 28th, 1752.

No. CXXIII.

JOHN GRANT of Ballimore to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Belliemore, 20th June, 1752.

Dr Sir,

I receved yours this morning, and I have returned your boy, and have sent your latters with mine to the post office. I shall send for three bolls of your best meall at Elchies once next week for my own use. I have upwards of sixty bolls of my own meall to dispose of as yett, and I hope this country will not be in any want, for tho' it be dear it's plenty enough. I think non in this paroch means to apply you for any meall at Elchies, but I doe not know what they may doe in the paroch of Duthell. I hear that Mr Forbes of New is appointed factor on the esteates of Lovet and Cromarty. You'll send me a discharge for Ballindalloch @ rents that I gave you the oyr day at Elchies. I am, dr Sir,

yours etc.
JOHN GRANT.

No. CXXIV.

JOHN PROCTOR, Writer, Conrack, Rothes, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

I sent as you desired to Portsoy, and have Mr Brebner's return showing that he's to send his bill for the price of the meall delivered over and above the contract to Keith Friday next, to be there exchanged with the receipt, which you may send to Keith that day. I likewise took the opportunity of writing Mr Robertson to supply the letter which I had misplaced relative to the quantity delivered him, which he has done, and shall be delivered you at meeting. I am, Sir,

your most hule sevt,

June 30th, 1752. JO. PROCTOR.

No. CXXV.

JOHN PROCTOR, Writer, Conrack, Rothes, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

I wrote you on Monday, and sent it by Auchterblair's servt who came for the eight bolls meall, and herewith send you a short state of the victuall accots, togither wt the former one, and the particular list of the meall given in over and above the farm, which I have rectify'd, and insert the 3 bolls formerly omitted of David McWilliam's,[1] and the meall paid in by yr sister[2] and Strainbucky of 1751, after deducing the half boll sent at yr desire to Fochrs. I am, Sir,

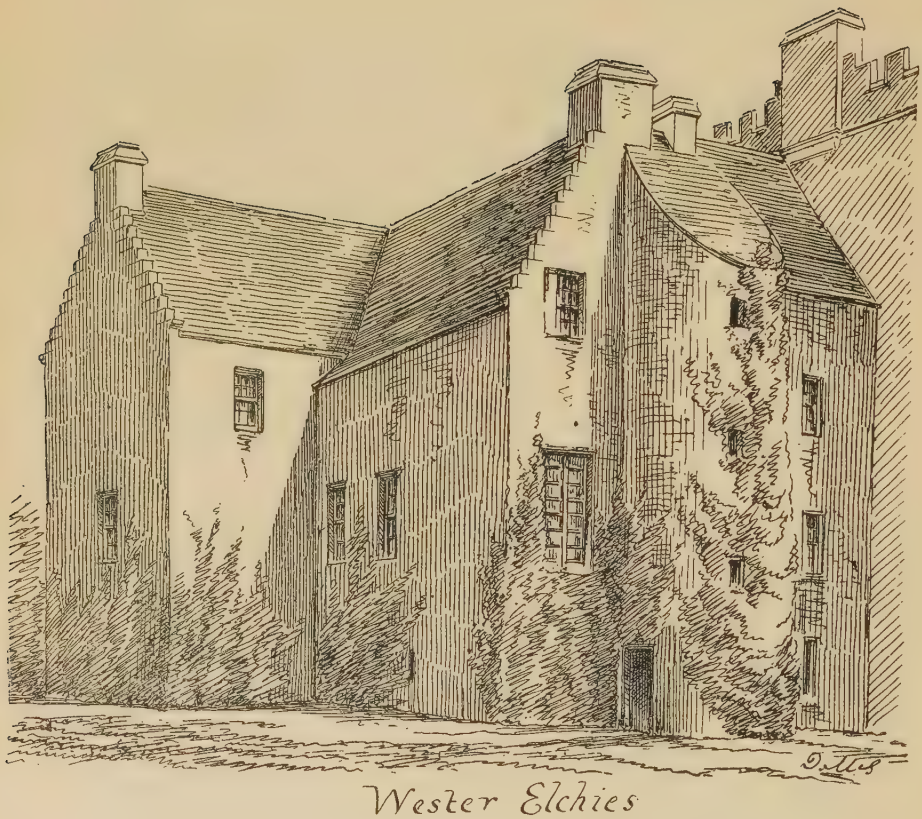
your most hule sert,

July 9th, 1752. JO. PROCTOR.

You have likewise Mr Anderson's ansr to your last concerning Ranald, which I opened.

[1]This tenant occupied the farm of Bog of Dandaleith; married Margaret Chalmers: their son, John, who was tenant of Blackhall, married Agnes Paton; he died 29th December, 1783; she died 6th January, 1819. *Tombstone in Rothes Churchyard.*

[2]Probably Mrs. Grant, Hillockhead.



Wester Elchies House.

From drawing kindly loaned by Mr. Thomas Ross, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., Edinburgh.

No. CXXVI.

JOHN GRANT, Mulben, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Mulben, 22d Septr. 1752.

Dr Sir,

I was at Rothiemay yesterday with Sir Ludavick Grant, who desired me write you that as the Lords were to be with Mr John Grant at Elchies upon the 28 and 29th instant, and as Lord Bracco insisted on his staying the head Court at Banff, he cou'd not be at Elchies sooner yn Munday come se'n night—the first Munday of Octr.; but if he cou'd he wou'd be yr Sabath night 'g'nst which time he does not doubt but care shall be taken to have Lethen yr that they may proceed in the affair of the marches. I am, wt complements to Mrs. Grant,

dr Sir,
your most humble servt,
JOHN GRANT.

No. CXXVII.

LEWIS GRANT of Wester Elchies to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

As Sir Ludovick Grant and his landlord satt up till early hours, and were fast asleep when you wrot me, I reckon it is uncertain whither they will goe to wiew the marches this day or not, and as my son is wery bad I don't choose to be much absent from him. But if Sir Ludovick is to goe up to the hill, please be so good as to accquant me att what hour he intends it, and I shall wait of them on the ground. I am,

Sir,
your most obedient sert,
LEWIS GRANT.[1]

Elchies, Septr 30th, 1752.

[1]Died 17th January, 1757.

No. CXXVIII.

LEWIS GRANT of Wester Elchies to JOHN GRANT, yr., of Easter Elchies.

Dr Sir,

I beg you'l accquant me if Sir Ludovick Grant is to goe this day to the hill to wiew our controverted ground or not; and if he goes, att what hour he intends to doe it, that I may have the pleasure to meet him and you there. I hope you'l excuse this trouble from,

my dear Sir,

your most obedient and affectionate humble sert,

LEWIS GRANT.

Elchies, Septr 30th, 1752.

Endorsed:—To John Grant of Elchies Esqr.

No. CXXIX.

Extract from Letter—

JOHN GRANT, yr., of Easter Elchies to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Edinr, 13th Febry, 1753.

Some days agoe I was favour'd with yours of the 1st and 3d instant and receiv'd enclos'd a bill for £41: 3: 8 str drawn by Capt. Lewies Grant of Auchterblair on George Ross of London payable to you and indors'd by you to me for value in account, for which remittance I am very much oblidged to you.

By yours I apprehend my last letter to you has not come to hand as it contains the particulars of the bargain Lord Elchies and I have made for our meal, which, least it should miscarry, I shall again repeat. The purchaser is Mr Hay of Leys; the quantity 700 bolls, 100 more or less in our option; the quality sufficient; the growth of our lands in Murray cropt 1752; place of delivery Garmouth; time betwixt the 20th of May and

first of August upon premonition of 14 days to you and 10 days allow'd for the carrying of it: so that I apprehend the terms of the delivery and quantity will be agreable to you, being nearly the same you direct in yours. As to the price, as I am no victual merchant, I imagine it better to sell at the merkat prices than keep up and think we got a verry good one to witt 7£ pr boll payable at Lammas. If the meal falls, I fancy you will agree with me in delivering the largest quantity providing the tennants can spare it. Our crop here does not turn out so well as was expected, yet the meal is not rising, as Lord Elchies inform'd me he purchas'd south country meal yesterday at seven pound four pence.

No. CXXX.

WILLIAM TAYLOR, Mugdrum, and PETER HAY of Leys to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

Mr Hay of Leys will write you himself concerning Lord Elchies' meall as to the time ye ship will be at Speymouth and the quantity he wants at present. All I shall say is that ye meall may be delivered wt all possible despatch, qch will oblige Mr Hay &

Sir,

your most obt humble servant,

WILL. TAYLOR.

Mugdrum, 16 May, 1753.

Sir,

I propose sending a small sloop out here the 22d or 23d which will hold about 400 bolls of the meall I have bought of my Lord Elchies, and I beg when she arrives at Speymouth that you will give all manner of dispatch in loading her which will be a favour done,

Sir,

your most obedient humble servt,

PETER HAY.

Mugdrum, 16th May, 1753.

No. CXXXI.

WILLIAM TAYLOR and PETER HAY of Leys to JAMES GORDON, Merchant, Garmouth.

D S,

My friend Mr. Hay of Leys is to send a ship to your harbour for some meall he has bought from Ld Elchies. I must beg ye favour that you'l show the skipper all ye civility and discretion in your power. Mr Hay will probably drop you a few lines himself on this subject. My service to Mrs Gordon and your ffaimly. I am, in heast,

d S, yours,

WILL. TAYLOR.

. . . 18 May, 1753.

Sir,

I give you the trouble of this along with Alexander Boyter, master of the sloop I have sent for Lord Elcheis' meall; shall take it as a partcular favour done me to endeavour to do as much as you can to prevaill with Mr Grant, Lord Elcheis' factor, to give him as quick dispatch as possabile, and beg of him to let it be as good in quality and good measure as he can, and as soon as the vessell arives be so good as provide the master in a proper person to go express to Mr. Grant of Tammore, after asking pardon for the trouble.

I am, Sir,

your most obdient humble sert.

PETER HAY.

Mugdrum, June 1st, 1753.

P.S.—The vessell should have come to me some time ago, but she was not come home from another voaige. P. H.

Endorsed:—Letter—Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hay to Jas. Gordon. 1753.

No. CXXXII.

Peter Hay of Leys to Alexr. Boyter.

Instructions to Alexr. Boyter, master of the William and Peggy sloop . . .

Sir,

You are herby directed and requir'd to proced imedieatly to Garmouth in Spey, and ther take on board a loading of oat meall on my account; and so soon as you arive, deliver the letter to Mr James Gordon, mercht. ther, and get him to send an express imedieatly to Robert Grant of Tammore, Esquire, with the letter you have to him; and in case any demur with respect to the weight, quality, or clearing of the meall should happen, you are to apply to Mr Jas Gordon for his advice in that case. So wishing you a good voaige and happy return,

I am,
your humble servant,
Peter Hay.

Mugdrum, June 1st, 1753.

To Alexr. Boyter.

Endorsed:—Instructions—Mr Hay of Leyes to Alexr. Boyter anent receiving Lord Elchies' meall and Mr Grant's. 1753.

No. CXXXIII.

Sir Ludovick Grant of Grant, Bart., to Robert Grant of Tammore.

C[astle] Grant,
June 4th, 1753.

Dr Sir,

The bearer Andrew Logie, my tennant at the Boat of Bridge, came to me just now and informed that some of Lord Elchies' tennants, to the number of about 20, came when he or his servts were fishing upon the bank of that place called the Sherriff, and took from them their netts, coble, and what fish they had. The

man says he has been in the uninterrupted possession there for above 12 years, and that his predecessors were in use to fish there likewayes. I design, as Lord Elchies and his son desired, verie soon to vew some parts where you say there is a dispute about our marchess, but I doe not think that this method will be approven of by you or my friends who are your constituents, and therfor I expect you will immediatlie quarrell the people for this rash step, and order them to restore all they took from my people, for I think it more prudent if we have disputes to take ane other method of ascertaining our propertie. Compliments to Mrs Grant. Adew.

yours,

LUD: GRANT.

No. CXXXIV.

PETER HAY of Leys to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

I was favoured with yours by Mr Boyter Saturday last, and am now unloading the meall which pleases me extreamly well, and I reckon my self vastly obliged to you for the care and trouble you have taken about shiping this cargo and giveing so quick dispatch. I shall pay in the price of the eighty four bolls of Sir Ludovick Grant's meall to Lord Elchies as you direct, and he shall get my bill for the price of the seven hundred and fourteen bolls of his own meall conform to the terms of the contract.

My omitting to sign my last letter to you was to be sure a very great blunder, and not at all like a man of bussiness, but it certainly had been oweing mostly to the heedlessness of the person who wrote the letter for me and rolled it up before I had signed it. I wish it lay in my way to show you how much I am, Sir,

your most obedt humble servt,

PETER HAY.

Mugdrum, 25th June, 1753.

Endorsed by R. G.:—25th June. Mr Hay of Leys letter acknowledging the recept 798 bolls meall and promising payment of the price. 1753.

No. CXXXV.

Memorandum by ROBERT GRANT of Tammore respecting his letter to JOHN GRANT, yr., of Easter Elchies.

Tomoir, March 23d, 1754.

I have writen to Mr Jo: Grant of this date and sent him a discharge by Ballindalloch's tutors for £45 sterling as three years' @ rent of £300 sterling, and ordered Lord Minto to pay him the money on the back of the discharge value in acount; have also wrote him that I told Delrachnie that he had wrote me that he agreed to give him the Mains of Elches provided he would reside in it, and that Delrachnie said he intended it, and that he agreed to labour the Mains in the maner thats done for some time past; and agreed to keep always as much of it ley as he gets, and that he agreed that the muck shud be carryd to the muir of Dandalieth, and desired Mr Grant's directions about the disposing of the old ffurniture of the house, labouring utensills and kitchen furnitur, and desired to know if he would have it sold, or if he would give it to Delrachnie under invitory or order it to be laid up; and promis'd to make an invitory and to send him a coppie; have also wrote him for an answer to my letter annent the tack of Blairnain, whether he will choise the 700 merks that Tammison offers or £20 sterline of grassum and £20 Scots of additionall rent from the possesors: and wrote him that I expected Willy soon, and expected to get the money I'me to lend him remitted from Aberdeen.

No. CXXXVI.

Extract from Letter—

JOHN GRANT, yr., of Easter Elchies to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

[Written at foot of foregoing Memo. of 23rd March, 1754.]

On receiving yours I considered more maturely of Delrachnie's proposall, and talked to my Lord Elchies about it, and I could not help agreeing with his Lordship that it is a bad scheme both for

him and me, especially to be gone about in the hurry proposed. With regard to Dell. I cannot think the advantages of supplying himself with meall from that farm, or even the smallest profite possibly to be made on a tollerably good possession will counterballance the loss arising from two families and houses to a man who does not make farming his profession, or that living in Elchies would turn out to his advantage, for which I'm afraid he has too good a heart—As to myself you know it has always been my scheme not to sett the Mains to a common tennent, as it must destroy it, put it out of my power ever to go to the north, and really look like abandoning the countrey, which I assure you is not my intention, as I shall visite it with more pleasure than ever when I'm intirely my own master. Delrachny's being there must, you know, put that out of Mrs. Grant's power, and when he gives it up, as many accidents may make him soon do, I must either plenish the farm anew or sell it; of the last I have already told my sentiments, and the first would I'm afraid turn out so disagreeable as to force me to the second: for all those reasons I cannot help being against it, and shall soon write Delrachny so; but begg you would inform him of it in the meantime.

No. CXXXVII.

JOHN GRANT, younger, of Easter Elchies to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dear Sir, -

I am thus far in my way for Bamff, and being oblidg'd immediately to return to Edinr after the Election is over must begg the favour that you would be so good as to come here to morrow night as I want much to see you. Be so good likeways as to desire John Roger come here at the same time that I may speak to and settle with him. I offer my best respects to Mrs Grant and am,

dr Sir,
your most obdt hule sert,
JOHN GRANT.

Huntly Castle, 9th May, 1754.

No. CXXXVIII.

JOHN PROCTOR, Writer, Conrack, Rothes, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Sir,

I weighed your four sacks meall which contained fife bolls at 9 stone and a very small quantity more which is returned as it would not have been a peck. James Grant's corn gave six bolls two firlots and half a peck, both which, with the rye meall of the Mains lately made, will serve for some time till more can be got wt conveniency. I shall make a computation of what more I think they'll need.

I wrote Mr Gordon this day concerning yr mare: she goes to Gordonstown, and he says that he'll cause keep her there till she is served. I am,

Sir,
your most hule sertt,
Jo. PROCTOR.

June 6th, 1754.

No. CXXXIX.

CHARLES ANDERSON,[1] Writer, Edinburgh, to ROBERT GRANT of Tammore.

Dr Sir,

I was favour'd with yours of the 23d of last month covering on to Lord Elchies, the accounts of whose death will no doubt have reach'd you by this time, whereby Mr Anderson has lost an able intercessor for him in his affair, which is but triffling and not worth mentioning in comparison with the loss the country sustains of being deprived of so able a judge, whose qualifications and abalitys in that capacity renders his death a national loss, and the more so as it is irreparable, and cannot be supplied by a promotion from the Bar.

However, I deliver'd your letter to Mr Grant, who, I make no doubt, will have a great regaird to what he will thereby know my

[1]He is mentioned in the Ballindalloch Estate Accounts under date of January and July, 1763.

Lord had taken a concern in, and, if you thought it proper with your convenience to write Mr Grant on the subject, it would be adding an additional ffavour on Mr Anderson, and, I fflatter my self, would be of great service to him.

My reason for not acknowledging the receipt of the accots is that I have been expecting them every day from Mr Sym, Mrs Grant's doer, to be sent you.

I gave them to him how soon they came to hand, that he might send them to Mrs Grant, who is in the country some miles from this, to be signed, and he tells me they are not yet returned—How soon they come to my hand, shall send you them. With my best respects to Mrs Grant, I am,

dr Sir,
your most humble servant,
CHA: ANDERSON.

Edinr, 1st August, 1754.

No. CXL.

EXTRACTS FROM THE BALLINDALLOCH ESTATE ACCOUNTS. 1702-1754.

1. From the "Accompt Chairge and Dischairge off Collonell Allexr Grant of Grant his Intrommissiones with Bellnadalloch's Estate Cropt 1702":—

Dischairge.	Lib.	shill.	d.
Patrick Grant in Pittchaise who was a sub-ffactor put in by Ballnadalloch payed to himself and of his debts conforme to ane particular accompt and instructions thereof in Easter Elchies' hands, the sume off - - - - -	0293	07	8
Allowed to Patrick Grant in Pittchaish, Bellnadalloch's brother by his order, the sume off -	0133	06	8
Patrick Grant in Pittchaish as sub ffactor brought in by Ballnadalloch did by ane written order ffrom him retaine of sallerie yearlie sixtie pounds Scots—inde for the said year - -	0060	00	00

	Lib.	shill.	d.
Cropt 1703.—Dischairge.			
[Similar to 1st item 1702 above] - - - -	0658	10	4
Patrick Grant in Pittchaish as sub-factor brought in by Ballendalloch did by ane written warrand ffrom him retaine of sallerie the sd year -	0060	00	0
Cropt 1704.—Dischairge.			
[Similar entries to 1703 above] - - - -	0803	18	0
	0060	00	00
Cropt 1705.—Dischairge.			
[Similar entries] - - - - - - - -	0358	13	08
	0060	00	00
Cropt 1706.—Dischairge.			
[Similar entries] - - - - - - - -	0465	05	6
	0060	00	00
Cropt 1707.—Dischairge.			
[Similar entries] - - - - - - - -	0287	03	10
	0060	00	0
Cropt 1708.—Dischairge.			
[Similar entries] - - - - - - - -	0096	13	4
	0060	00	00
Cropt 1709.—Dischairge.			
The lands of Corrieshellach in Morinsh rentaled at 40 merks, but possest be Easter Elcheis conforme to Bellnadalloche's tack yron for ffifteen pounds Scots the sd cropt: inde defalcat -	0018	06	8
Cropt 1710.—Dischairge.			
The lands of Corrieshellach in Morinsh possest be Easter Elcheis ffor ffifteen pounds per tack ffrom Bellnadalloch, yet these lands are rentaled at ffiftie merks: inde defalcats -	0018	06	8

2. From the Accounts (commencing 1711) of Robert Grant of Tammore:—

1712.

May 12—To Allexr Ross, messr. for charging John Grant of Easter Elches, Mr Patrick Grant, advocat, Mr James Bannerman, minister at Inveraven, Thomas Grant in Pitchach, William Collie in Inveraven, Marie Straquan,

	Lib.	shill.	d.
relick of the deceast Patrick Grant of Pitchach and Thomas Grant his son, both living at Aberdeen on a summonds of mails and dutys at my instance as pr discharge - - -	20	0	0
Cropt 1715.—Discharge.			
Itt. The rent of the Corrishellach possesed by the Lady Easter Elches by vertue of a tack from Ballindalloch - - - - - - -	33	6	8
Cropt 1716.—Discharge.			
Itt. The Corrishellach possesed by the Lady Easter Elches, and keeps it in grass so that nothing can be had for it - - - - - - -	33	6	8
Feb. 27th—To the Coll. at Easter Elches, two guineas - - - - - - -	2	3	0
To boat freight at Skirdustan sd time -	0	0	3
Cropt 1717.			
Deminution from the Rentall of Ballindalloch's estate:—			
Capt. John Grant of Easter Elchis detains the rent of Corrishellach under pretence of having a tack of it for £15 Scots yearly - - -	33	6	8
May 7th—To James McDonald being sent to Elches	0	0	2
1727.			
In "A/c of Malt sold belonging to Coll. Grant," occurs:—3 to the Lady Elches; 3 bolls at six pds the boll - - - - - - - -	18	0	0
1730.			
To Cash payd to George Gordon, Writer to the Signet as ffactor for the deceast Robert Grant, writer in Edr his exors one hundred pounds starling and @ rent resting theiron from Whit. 1724 as pr the Coll's bond to the sd deceast Robert Grant retired and discharged by the sd George Gordon, at least in the hands of Mr Pat. Grant of Elches, Advocat, as pr his letter to me of the 6th March 1730. £128 15 starling is the bond and discharge given up at compting	1545	0	0

	Lib.	shill.	d.
1731.			
Nov.—To Cash payd to Mr Patrick Grant of Elches that he laid out for Jamie's[1] board &c as pr acount £10 17 2 st. - - - - - -	130	6	0
1732.			
Ap. 29—To the Coll. at the boat of Elchies and at the Kirk - - - - - - - - - -	0	4	0
August 2d—To the price of a cow and an ox bought from John Merson in Elches - - - - -	29	0	0
To the price of a cow from Jo. Proctor -	14	0	0
Septr.—To Cash payd to Mr Patrick Grant of Elches on acount of James Grant sone to Coll. Grant as pr acount £15 11 1 starling besides the £5 charged in a former acount - - -	186	13	0
1733.			
To Cash pd to Lord Elches for James as pr his letter and a particular acott twenty six pounds thirteen shill and two pence Ster. - - -	319	18	0
To 18 deals from Elches - - - - -	9	0	0
1734.			
March—To Cash payd to Lachlane Grant, writer at Edr to pay an acct of linning furnished by Mris. Colquohoun as pr Lachlane Grant's receipt to Lord Elchies - - - - - - - -	164	5	0
June—To the diffirence twixt the horse he got of my Lord Elchies's and a garron that Lord Elchies got in exchange - - - - -	48	0	0
By my Lord Elches' bill on me dated the 13th day of June 1734 years ordering me to pay to the sd Allexr Grant[2] one hundred and two pounds ten shilling starling at the term of Mert. 1734 now retired discharged - - - -	1230	0	0
1735.			
Apr. 22d—To Cash payd him by Lord Elches at my desire as pr his recept in Lo/ Elches' hands—fifty pounds Ster. - - - - - -	50	0	0

[1]Afterwards General James Grant of Ballindalloch.

[2]Alexr. Grant of Ballindalloch, who is also referred to in the subsequent extracts.

	Lib.	shill.	d.
. . . . By one hundered pounds that was lodged in Lo/ Elches' hands of the two hundred that Mr Grant borrowed from Major Grant to pay the accots due to Provest Lindsay, David Spence and Mrs Polson at Edr and the bill he owed to Mr Thomson, all which are now clear'd by Lo/ Elches and charged to Robt Grant in Tomore as pr accot herewt given in, and the articles payd by Lo/ Elches are all put to the debit of this accot - - - - - - -	100	0	0
May—To Cash payd by Lo/ Elches for his broyr James's board at Dalkeith from the 4th Octr. 1733 to the 6th Decr. 1734 as pr accot sent me by Lo/ Elches of the money I remit to him -	28	2	0
To Cash payd by Lo/ Elches to Provest Lindsey and Mrs Polson that Coll. Grant owd them pr accot in Lo/ Elches' hands - -	36	13	0
To three bolls malt bought at Elches for the home use besides the six that came from John Robertson for strong ale - - - - -	1	6	8
June 20th—To Cash by Lo/ Elches to Mr Grant himself fourty pounds Ster as pr my letter to Lo/ Elches and Mr Grant's recept in his hands	40	0	0
Nov. 20th—To Cash pd by Lo/ Elches at my desire to Wm Hunter, taylor, for James Grant, second son to the deceast Coll. Grant upon the acctt of work due by the sd Jas before his fayr's death as pr Francis Scot's declaration and Lo/ Elches' letter to me - - - - - - - -	4	2	4
To Do pd by Lo/ Elches to Mrs Babie Donaldson for shirtts to the sd James Grant pr Do Scot's accots and declaration - - -	4	13	10½

1736.

Jary. 20th—To Cash given to John Grant, Alexr Ratry and Alexr Stuart to bear their charges to Edr to verifie the execution of Mr Grant's brives three pounds Ster., and to James Stuart soldier in Capt. Grant's company[1] a crown to

[1]The "Grant" Company of the Black Watch, commanded by Captain George Grant.

		Lib.	shill.	d.
	goe along wt them because they carried south a sum of money to be laid out by Lo/ Elches for Mr Grant at Edr - - - - - - - -	3	5	0
Jary	23rd—By Thos Rutherfoord's bill of sixty pounds Sterling payable to Major Lewis Grant of the Royall Regiment of foot commanded by the Right Honble the Earl of Orkney, dated the third day of Jary 1736 payable twenty days after date indors'd by Major Grant to the sd Alexr Grant and by him to Lo/ Elches for value of me - - - - - - - - - -	60	0	0
	1736.			
	To Cash pd by Lo/ Elches to Mr Cockburn mert in Edr pr accot dischd in his Lo/ship's hands and his letter to me thereannent, and for which I have given him credite	Sterling 9	16	0
	To Cash pd by Lo/ Elches to Mr Leslie, schoolmaster at Dalkeith, for five quarters' board to your broyr Jamie as pr his Lo/ship's letter to me - - - - - - - -	27	10	0
	To Cash pd by Lo/ Elches to the Royall Bank in payment of the said Alexr Grant's bill to the Bank wherein the Lord Advocate[1] and the Lo/ Elches were conllie bound wt him for four hundred pounds Ster in two bills, one of £250 Ster., the oyr of £150 Ster. and @ rents added to the prinll in both bills, and for which the said Lo/ Advocate and Lo/ Elches have each the said Alexr Grant's separate bond of relief; the bill now pd and intrest yron extends to £255 15 7 Ster, wt which I debite the said Alexr Grant, and have given credite for it to Lo/ Elches in his current accot as pr the said bill dischd by the Cashier of the Royall Bank and herewt given up to the said Alexr Grant -	255	15	7
	By fifteen pounds eight shillings and four pence that remain'd in my hands of the sum of three thousand merks borrow'd by him this day from Mr Allexr Fraser, minister of the Gospell at Inveraven, after paying one hundred			

[1]Duncan Forbes of Culloden.

	Lib.	shill.	d.
and fifty one pounds five shillings to Lord Elches, which sum he payd by granting his own bill for it to the Royall Bank of Scotland payable the 22nd June next and retired the sd Allexr Grant's bill from the bank which he gave up discharged - - - - - -	15	8	4
April—To Cash payd to Provost Robertsone for four dozen wine that the sd Allexr Grant borrowed out of Easter Elches - - -	2	8	0
May 6—To Cash payd to Lord Elches five guneas that he payd to the Royall Bank for the sd Allexr Grant as the @ rent of £151 5 starling to the 23d Aprill last and granted his own bill to the bank for the sd £151 5, and has taken the sd Allexr Grant'(s) bill on me payable the 22d June next for the sd £151 5, qch bill I have accepted as pr the sd Allexr Grant's letter to me desiring me to honour his draught - -	5	5	0
1737.			
Jan.—To Cash payd to Lord Elches thirty one pds fifteen shilling starling that his Lo/ payd out for James Grant, broyr to the sd Allexr Grant at Edr, from the first day of June 1736 to the 14th Jary 1737, as p. Lo/ Elches' letter and a note of the payments made by him, the instructions being still in his Lo/ hands - -	Scots. 381	0	0
To £300 remited to George Gordon to be laid out for Jamie his broyr pr Lord Elches' letter - - - - - - - - - -	300	0	0
1739.	£ Sterling.	s	d
By Cash from Capt. Grant one hundred and fifty punds p. his bill on Capt. Patrick Wood payable to me or my order for value indorsed by me to Lo/ Elcheis in accot as p Lo/ Elcheis' letter acknowledging that the bill was duly honoured and paid - - - - - - - - -	150	0	0

[1]In an account between Alexr. Grant of Ballindalloch and George Gordon, W.S., under date of February, 1736, is the entry:—"To ditto received from Lord Elchies to accompt of the charges of the said Alexr Grant his service as heir to his father on my receipt (£)30—Stg.

	£ s d Sterling.
To Cash paid the Royall Bank for him three hundred and two pounds ten shillings Str. as p. his bill retir'd from the Bank by Lord Elcheis to whom I have given credit in his accot for sd sum. It is Lo/ [Elcheis] and Lachlan Grant are conjunct acceptors of this bill and of anoyr bill of the like sum which the sd Capt. Grant borrowed from the Bank to pay the price of his commission; and Lo/ Elcheis and Lachlan Grant have each a back bond of him. The instructions for this article is Lo/ Elcheis' letter to me shewing that he paid the same and desiring me give him credit for it - - -	302 10 0
To Cash paid to the Royall Bank for his other bill three hundred and three punds eighteen shill. and two pence, as p. the bill retir'd (interest included) and Lo/ Elcheis' letter to me shewing that he has the bill and desiring me to give him credit for sd sum in our accots - - -	303 18 2
1740.	
To Cash payd to his broyr Jamie by Lord Elches at my desire twenty pounds starling as pr his recept in Lord Elches' hands - - - -	20 0 0
1741.	
To the price of three stone three quarters and a pound butter bought out of Elches at £0 4 8 Scots the pound - - - - - - -	1 7 11
Decr. 12—To Cash given by Lord Elcheis to Lachlan Grant to pay a bill drawn be Alexr. Grant, sadler,[1] on the compter for payt of ane accot of necessaries sent be him to the Lady Ballindalloch as p. the letter and the bill in Lachlan Grant's hands - - - - -	25 8 0
1742.	
May 31—To £4 6 6½ str. paid be Lo/ Elcheis to the heirs and representatives of Mr Mckviccar mert in Edr for ane accot due be Capt. Grant's sisters in the year 1729 to the deceast Alexr McKviccar	

[1]London. *Vide* entry in 1745 accounts.

	£	s	d
as p. the accot discharged in Lo/ Elcheis' hands, and for which I have given his Lop credit in my accot wt him. A coppy of McKiviccar's accot is herewith produced -	Sterling. 4	6	6½
1746.			
June 24—To the price of two oxen of Lord Elcheis' cattle bought for Ballindalloch's use - -	5	11	1⅓
By seven hundred and seventeen pound ten shillings Str contained in Coll. Abercrombie's bill on Sr Gilbert Elliot of Minto one of the Senators of the College of Justice payable to the sd Alexr Grant upon the 19th Octor last 1746, and left with Lord Elcheis indors'd blank to receive payment for the sd Alexr Grant's account as p. my receipt to Ld Elcheis acknowledging that I had received payt by Lord Minto's bond for £300 Str payable Whit. 1747 to the sd Alexr Grant etc. And by £417 10 Str in cash, for which I was to give credit to the sd Alexr Grant - - -	717	10	0
To three hundred pounds Str contained in Lord Minto's bond payable to the sd Alexr Grant his heirs or assignies at Whit. 1747, dated 7th Novr 1746, bearing @ rent from the date, and is a part of the £717 10 Str contained in Coll. Abercrombie's bill on Ld Minto payable to him or order, and which bill was left be him indorsed blank on the back thereof with Ld Elcheis to recover payment; and which bond I received from Lord Elcheis in part of the sd sum as p. my recept in his hands for the £717 10 Str - - - - - - - -	300	0	0
To the price of ten bolls meall received by the Lady Ballindalloch out of Ld Elcheis' Girnell of cropt 1745 at £6 Scots the boll, nine stone to the boll - - - - - -	5	0	0
1747.			
March—To the price of two oxen of Ld Elcheis' cattle, one for the pleugh at £28, the oyr for feeding at £14 Scots - - - - -	3	10	0

	£ s d
1749.	Sterling.
To the price of thirty bolls of Lord Elchies' meall cropt 1748 received by Lady Ballindalloch att £5 Scots p. boll, nine stone to the boll - -	12 10 0
1751.	
To ten guineas as the price of the horse that the deceast Ballindalloch bought from Collonell Abercrombie, sold by Capt. James Grant to Lord Elchies, and to be put to his Lop's accot	Scots. 126 0 0
1754.	
To £45 Str, the @ rents due by Lord Minto from Mart 1750 to Do 1753 of the prinll sum of £300 Str due by his Lordship to deceast Alexr Grant of Ballindalloch by bond dated 7th Novr 1746, as p. discharge granted by the Tutors, and given to the compter, and by him sent to Mr John Grant yor. of Elchies to receive the money for the compter - - - - - -	540 0 0

APPENDIX II.

Observations by Lord Elchies on the Proposed Bill for abolishing Heritable Jurisdictions in Scotland.

APPENDIX II.

A few Observations on some Clauses of the Bill now depending in Parliament for taking away and abolishing Heretable Jurisdictions in Scotland.[1]

The first clause that seems immediatly to affect the peace and quiet of that part of the United Kingdom, and of consequence the happiness and prosperity of it, Is the clause that abolishes the Jurisdiction of Barrons and all the lower Jurisdictions: And that this clause (should it be past into a law) would greatly hurt that whole Country Every man must forsee that gives but the smallest attention to the situation and Circumstances of the Country, tho' it is time alone that can discover all the mischiefs it may produce. By this I don't mean the power of the Barrons to try Capital Crimes, or even crimes upon which any severe Corporal punishments may follow. These are much fitter to be intrusted to the King's Courts, and they can all of them be tryed there, and for that very reason the Supreme Courts have shown such a disposition of removing the tryals of such crimes from the Barrons Courts by Advocation, That scarce has such a thing been known for many years as the attempting to have these crimes tryed there: But what I mean is the Barrons and other Heretors' power of repressing and punishing Riots and small trespasses within their Jurisdictions, and Judging of small claims or debts between their Tennents.

It is well known that a great part of Scotland is poor and ill Inhabited, having in many places Great and barren Mountains and wilds with few or no Inhabitants, and these deserts divided by narrow stripes of ground poorly Cultivated upon the sides of Rivers, and these are Inhabited by many poor Tennents, or rather Cottagers, that pay small rents, from 20sh ster to £5 or £6, which in many places in Scotland is accounted a high rent. In the common course of human affairs it must happen that these small Tennents have disputes with one another, both on account of small Trespasses and injuries committed on one another, and of

[1]Endorsed:—"Receiv'd from the D: of Argyll. Drawn by Lord Elchies (Grant) one of the Lords of Session." "Hardwicke Papers," Addl. MSS. 35890, ff. 104-7, British Museum.

the little bargains between them; and it has always been thought the interest as well as the duty of the proprietor of these grounds to administer Justice impartially to the Inhabitants, and to settle those disputes and differences between them, and to do it in the most expeditious way, and without expense, because upon his doing so depends his geting payment of his rents: for anyone may easily imagine that a Tennent that farms lands yeilding only 20, or 40sh or £3 str of rent, out of which he must maintain himself, his wife, and Children, and Servants (if he can afford to keep any) cannot possibly either prosecute or defend a regular Lawsuit in the King's Courts, and fee procurators, Clerks &c, and himself attend so oft as is necessary, because that very expense and attendance must inevitably break him, and consequently forfeit the Master of his rents, and lay his grounds waste.

What then must be the case should this bill pass If a debt is contracted or a trespass committed to the value of 2 or 3 or 20, or 30sh str? the Creditor or party injured can't resort to his Master or his Steward for Justice, And therefore he must either sit down contented with the loss, or he must leave his farm and travell 10 or 20 or 30 miles to the Shirriffs Court to advise with some procurator how he can obtain Justice, and must find as much ready money for the procurator's fee as the value perhaps of his whole claim, and, ignorant as he is of the law, must implicitly follow the directions of that procurator in all his future expences so long as he has a shilling to bestow. If a little experience shall convince those poor Tennents how unwholesome such a remedy is for them, then the only other remedy they have is to rest contented with the loss which, in plain english, is that those poor people are to be altogether deprived of Justice: the weakest and the poorest must be contented to be opprest by their Neighbours that are stronger or richer than they, and what can that produce but confusion, and perpetual quarrels, and often bloodshed, and murders, and the Heretor must lose his rents, and have his grounds laid waiste.

I doubt not that the projectors of this part of the Bill imagine that all this will be abundantly cured by the proviso in the bill for making several deputy Shirriffs in each County, and there being several Justices of peace to whom the Inhabitants may resort for Justice.

But any man that is acquainted with the situation of this Country must soon discover how ineffectual this remedy must prove. Where are these Shirriffs to reside? Without doubt it must be at such a place where there can be some accomodation

for the Court, and for the whole Members of it, as well as for the Suitors, and how few such places are to be found even suppose sufficient Judges could be found willing to reside there, where they can have no temptation to reside but the Sallarys that shall be allowed them!

And as to the Justices of peace—these commonly reside upon their own Estates unless their employments or bussiness calls them away: and while they are at home they may indeed administer Justice to their own Tennents, and it does not signify whether they do it in the Character or quality of Barrons or of Justices of peace: But will these Gentlemen take the trouble of traveling some miles to decide a dispute between two Tennents of a Neighbouring Heretor when the dispute is not worth many shillings? And how many parts of Scotland are there where the Estate of one Gentleman is 10, or 20, or 30 miles of extent, and not one man besides the heretor residing in it that wou'd deserve the office of Justice of peace? Such a Gentleman and his heirs have a pretty good chance of being always in the Commission of the peace, which differs little from heretable Justices, but is so far less effectual than heretable barronies that they cannot distribute Justice among their Tennents as Justices of peace but when they are personally present, whereas they can, as Barrons, delegate that power to their Stewards or other proper Baillies.

These poor people now know that in case any Injury or Injustice is done them they have an easy remedy at hand by Complaint to the Heretor, or his Steward or Baillie, and that very knowledge prevents every day thousands of Injurys that wou'd be committed if that remedy were taken away: So that it is truly impossible to forsee all the Mischiefs that may probably attend the total abolishing of these lower Jurisdictions. (*Vide* Note A, p. 312.)

2. The next Clause in the Bill that seems to affect the course of Justice in Scotland is that which prohibits all Advocations from Shirriffs or Stewards Courts for sums or personal demands not exceeding the value of £30 str.—As to which I observe that tho' no Advocations of such causes can be granted when they are once brought into the Shirriff Court, Yet the Plantiff is not limited. He may bring his Suite at first either before the Shirriffs Court, or Court of Session, and happy is it for the Country that he is not limited! But then that very consideration shows the Injustice of this clause: It often happens that a defendent is often sued for one and the same debt by different persons; for example, an Executor is sued by different Creditors of the deceast whose

debts exceed the value of the Inventary, for which only he is lyable, and one of them sues him in the Court of Session, and another in the Shirriff's Court; Two Creditors of the same person arrest a debt due to him by a third person, and pursue furthcomings, the one in the Court of Session, the other in the Shirriff's Court; Different persons pretending right to the same lands sue the Tennents for payment of their rents in these different Courts, which truly resolves in a Competition of real rights, Of which by the Law of Scotland No inferiour Court can Judge. In these, and many more such cases, the defendent is in Justice liable only to one of those Claimants, And yet, as by this intended Act there can be no Advocation from the Shirriff Court, the consequence is that decrees must go in favours of both, and possibly execution may be awarded upon them before Suspension can be obtained. We had very early a Regulation of the same sort in 1555: Queen Mary par 6th Act 39 in fine; but the Inconvenience was soon felt, and therefore suffered to go into disuse. Thereafter a new Regulation was made to the same effect, 1663 Chas. 2d. par. 1st. Sess. 3d. Ch. 9, but under two limitations: first, it was confined to Actions under the value of 200 mks. scots or £11: 2: 2⅔ str.; 2dly, where the Inferiour Judge was himself competent to Judge in the Action, but the Inconvenience of this law was also soon felt, And therefore by the 16th Act par. 2d. Sess. 3d. Ch. 2d $ 16 and 17, a greater latitude was given the Court of Session to Judge what other grounds were sufficient for which the cause ought not in the first instance to be pursued before the Inferiour Judge ordinar but before the Session, and this Regulation is in constant observance to this day.

Why the framers of this bill have alter'd the sum that was thought reasonable by the Parliament of Scotland I know not unless they imagine that £30 str. is now of no more value than £11: 2: 2⅔ str. then was: But I'm affraid the poor Inhabitants of this Country feel that this is not the case; 2dly, Even where the Inferiour Judge is himself incompetent, there can be no Advocation by this bill; 3dly, The Members of the Colledge of Justice, who by their offices are tyed to closs attendance on the supreme Courts, and have therefore ever enjoyed the priviledge of not being sued in Inferiour Courts, Yet by this bill may be sued in the most remote shires in Scotland, tho' they cannot possibly attend there to defend; 4thly, Where a defendant is sued by different persons in different Courts for one and the same Claim, there can be no advocation, and decrees must pass against him at the suit of both; 5th, By the present practice, when the

actions are for sums less than 200 mks, even when the Inferiour Judge has committed iniquity, or been in some Error either in matter of law or in the form of proceeding, yet the Court of Session do not for that reason alone remove the Cause by Advocation, but they remitt it back to the Inferiour Court with proper Instructions to amend that error, which prevents a great expence and great loss of time to the Suitors: but by this bill they are depriv'd of that remedy. If the Inferiour Judge makes a mistake, he must be suffered to go on, and then when his decree comes to be reviewed by Suspension, all the proceedings in his Court must go for nothing. (*Vide* Note B, p. 313.)

3. The last Clause in this bill on which I shall make any observations is that concerning Suspensions to be past and discust by the Circuit Courts, which to me seems to be quite inexplicable, and my great Comfort is that the Complainers are not limited to that Court, but may apply to the Court of Session which, without doubt, they will always chuse as the most expeditious and most effectual as well as the most expensive Course.

I need not here notice the many Salutary Regulations made by the Court of Session concerning those bills which it is impossible to apply to bills presented in Circuit Courts, or to make regulations for them to have the like effect, such as those made for preventing the passing such bills by surprise, or the passing them by one Judge after they have upon due examination been refus'd by another, or concerning the passing of bills on Juratory Caution, or after the Sentence has received execution on the Debitor's person, and he committed to prison.

I need not either take notice that by the law of Scotland no bill of Suspension can be fram'd by any other than one of the Clerks of His Majesty's Signet, who Subscribes it, or be presented by any other than the Clerk of the bills or his deputs, who are all of them answerable for any mistakes or trespasses in their several offices, and who have their offices for life, and ought not to be deprived of them without a just Compensation; And in their place other officers with proper Sallarys wou'd be necessary to attend those Circuits.

When bills of Suspension are presented at the Circuits, It wou'd be unjust to pass such bills without allowing the obtainer of the Decree an opportunity to show why it ought not to be past; Therefore a proper time must be allowed to give him notice, And to serve him with a copy, and for him to put in his Answers, and very often before that can be done the Circuit Court at that place

must be ended, unless every person that obtains a decree in a Shirriff Court for 10 or 20sh must attend at the next Circuit with a procurator to answer a bill of Suspension, if any shall be offered.

If the Judge shall find cause to pass the bill, then by this clause letters of Suspension must be issued, for which end the past bill must be sent to Edinburgh that letters of Suspension must be expede under His Majesty's signet.

By this means, every past bill of Suspension must effectually stay execution for 6 months, untill the next Circuit, before the cause can be brought to a tryal, nor is it possible by any regulations to prevent it, because before tryal the obtainer of the decreet must be brought into Court (which is the proper use of letters of Suspension) and that cannot possibly be done at the same Circuit Court that past the bill.

When it is brought to tryal, then if the Judgement or decree of the Inferiour Court was only in default, or if by the unskillfulness of the procurators or Judge in the Inferiour Court all the necessary prooffs have not been brought, either by writings or otherways, or if any other mistake or error has been committed, which very often happens, then new prooffs must be allowed, and proces awarded for recovering the writings and produceing the witnesses, which cannot be done at that second Circuit Court, and therefore the tryal must be putt off for other 6 months to a third Circuit Court, and possibly a third set of Judges.

At that third Court, if the witnesses or havers of writings have a just excuse for not attending, or if even they contemptuously disobey the Summonds, yet the party can't be hurt by their contumacy, and therefore new proces must be issued to compell them; and in the mean time such witnesses or havers as do compear, their dēpositions must be taken doun in writing (and it is easy to forsee what progress two Judges can in a few days make in such an examination) And if by their depositions or writings by them produced other witnesses or writings shall be discovered that may be material, New proces must be issued for Summonding those witnesses or persons suspected to have those writings, and the tryal put off to a fourth Circuit.

And even at that fourth Circuit, if the party can give reasonable evidence that he did all in his power to bring his witnesses, or to recover the writings, and yet they are not brought into Court, or if the obtainer of the decree shall demand the Aid of the Court to recover other writings to explain or elide the force of the writings recover'd by the Suspender, Such demand cannot in Justice be refused, and thereby the tryal must be again put off.

In short, it is impossible to forsee the numberless incidents that happen every day in discussing Suspensions that of necessity must put off the Tryal for a few days, which is of small consequence where the Sessions continue for 2 or 4 months at a time, but were the Tryal in Circuit Courts, each of those Incidents behooved to Create a delay of 6 months, and bring the cause before a different sett of Judges, and after the Tryal is finished, and the Creditor recovers a new decree, He has upon the plan of this bill Security for payment of his Costs and expences, but none for payment of his original Claim: This wou'd be a proper regulation for a debitor who is unwilling or unable to pay a just debt, But no persons charged with an unjust claim, and who wishes the cause to be tryed Speedily and without expence, wou'd chuse that method.

By this bill in the Intervals of Circuits, Bills of Suspension are to be presented to the Judge or Judges who last went that Circuit, that is, in Session time they must be all sent to Edinburgh, and in Vaccation time, they must be sent to the Judge's Country seat, or where he shall happen to be for the time, tho' in the remotest parts of Scotland from the Complainer, and where he has no Clerk of the Signet, or of the bills, or other Clerk of Court, to do the duty of these respective offices, The Complainer's person or goods may be taken in Execution before that Judge is found, and when the bill is presented to him, any Judgement that he can form must be ex parte, without hearing the Obtainer of the Decree; And after all the Judge to whom the Bill is to be preferred, is not the Judge before whom the Suspension is to be discust.[1] (*Vide* Note C, p. 313.)

[1]Lord Elchies would not appear to have been alone in his dissatisfaction with some of the provisions of the proposed Bill. Burton, in his "Life of Duncan Forbes of Culloden," Lord President of the Court of Session, writes, "Forbes watched this measure with a jealous eye; and his letters on the subject, few of which would be interesting beyond the circle of the Scottish legal profession, yet deserve notice from one circumstance, that they contain several complaints, very mild and decorous, but for this characteristic not the less striking, that he was not sufficiently consulted about this measure." Lord Elchies, as the contemporary of the Lord President, who had held the office since 21st June, 1737, was doubtless well aware of the latter's sentiments respecting the Bill. The Lord President did not live to see it take effect, having died on 10th December, 1747, and in Lord Elchies' "Decisions," under "Jurisdiction, No. 14," is his note, "This morning died Duncan Forbes of Culloden, Lord President of the Session, very much and most justly regretted; for he had many valuable qualities, that procured him general esteem, both in his private life and in his public office of a Judge. And as before his time I never saw that office supplied, either with so much dignity or so much to the satisfaction of the country as while he enjoyed it, which was little more than ten years, so I do not expect ever to see it so well supplied again."

NOTE A.

Section XVII of the Act deals with this subject, and it may be fairly assumed that Lord Elchies' remarks were accountable for the alteration in the terms of the Bill. The Section runs :—

And whereas the Juris-diction in Capital Cases that was heretofore granted to many Heretors or Proprietors of Lands within that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, whose Lands were erected by the Crown into Baronies, or granted *cum fossa et furca,* or with Power of Pit and Gallows, or with the like Words, importing such capital Juris-diction, hath been long discontinued or fallen into disuse, as to the Exercise thereof, and it is now unnecessary and improper that the Right or Title of such Juris-diction in Barons should be any longer retained: And whereas it is also reasonable that some further Regulation should be made relating to the Juris-diction of such Barons, or of other Heretors of Lands, who are infeofft *cum curiis,* or intitled to the Juris-diction of Barons, or other lower Juris-diction; Be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That from and after the said twenty fifth day of March in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and forty eight, no Heretor or Proprietor of Lands within Scotland, which had been erected into a Barony, or granted with other lower Juris-diction or their Baillies, shall by virtue thereof, have, exercise or enjoy any Juris-diction whatsoever in Capital Cases; and that no such Baron or other Heretor of Lands, infeofft *cum Curiis* or their Baillies, shall, by virtue thereof, have, exercise or enjoy any Juris-diction in any Criminal Cause whatsoever, other than Assaults, Batteries and smaller Crimes, for which the Punishment to be inflicted shall only be by a Fine not exceeding twenty Shillings Sterling, or by setting the Delinquent in the Stocks, for any time not exceeding three Hours in the Day-time; which Fine shall be levied by Distress or Poynding of the Goods of the Delinquent; and in default of such Distress, by Imprisonment of his or her Person for any time not exceeding the Space of one Month; and that as to Civil Causes, it shall not be lawful or competent, from and after the said twenty fifth Day of March for any such Baron or Heretor, or their Baillies, to hold Plea, or judge in any Cause where the Debt or Damages shall exceed the Sum of forty Shillings Sterling, other than for recovering and uplifting from the Vassals, Tenants or Possessors of the Lands and Heretages of such Baron or Heretor, the Mails and Duties, or Rents and Profits thereof, or for Recovery of Multures or Services payable or prestable to their Mills; and in all other Civil Causes it

shall not be lawful for such Courts to judge in Cases of higher Value than the Sum aforesaid, by virtue of any Prorogation of the Juris-diction or Consent of the Parties litigant, for that Purpose; any Law, Custom or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding ; and that every Decree, Sentence, Judgment and Proceeding, by or before any such Baron, Heretor or their Baillies, contrary to this Act shall be absolutely void and null to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

NOTE B.

It is enacted by Clause XXXVIII :—

"That the Act of Parliament made in Scotland in the Year One thousand six hundred and sixty three, intituled, 'Act anent the discharging of Advocations for Sums within two hundred Merks,' shall from and after the said twenty fifth Day of March, be, and the same is hereby extended to the Case of all Advocations, in Causes not exceeding the Value of twelve Pounds Sterling."

Here again the alteration of the amount inserted in the Bill may be attributed to Lord Elchies' comments.

NOTE C.

In this case also drastic amendments would seem to have been made in the provisions of the Bill consequent on Lord Elchies' criticisms, as by Section XXXIV of the Act it is enacted :—

That it shall and may be lawful to and for any Party or Parties conceiving himself or themselves aggrieved by any Interlocutor, Decree, Sentence, or Judgment of the Sheriffs or Stewarts Court of any County, Shire or Stewartry, or of the Courts of any Royal Borough, or Burgh of Regality or Barony, or of any Court of any Baron or other Heretor having such Juris-diction, as is not hereby abrogated or taken away, where such Interlocutor Decree, Sentence or Judgment shall be concerning Matters Criminal, of whatever Nature or Extent the same may be except all Cases which infer the Loss of Life or Demembration, or in Matters Civil, where the Subject-matter of the Suit did not exceed in Value the Sum of twelve Pounds Sterling, to

complain and seek Relief against the same, by Appeal to the next Circuit Court of the Circuit wherein such County, Shire or Stewartry, Royal Borough or Burgh of Regality or Barony, or such Barony or Estate shall lie, so as no such Appeal be competent before a final Decree, Sentence or Judgment pronounced; and such Appeal it shall be lawful for the Party conceiving himself aggrieved, to take and enter in open Court, at the time of pronouncing such Decree, Judgment or Sentence, or at any time thereafter, within ten days by lodging the same in the Hands of the Clerk of the Court, and serving the adverse Party with a Duplicate thereof personally, or at his Dwelling House, or his Procurator or Agent, in the Cause, and serving in like manner the inferior Judge himself, in case the Appeal shall contain any Conclusion against him by way of Censure or Reparation of Damages, for alleged wilful Injustice, Oppression or other Malversation; and such Service shall be sufficient Summons to oblige the Respondents to attend and answer at the next Circuit Court, which shall happen to be held fifteen Days at least after such Service; and thereupon the Judge or Judges at such Circuit Court, shall and may proceed to cognosce hear and determine any such Appeal or Complaint, by the like Rules of Law and Justice as the Court of Session, or Court of Justiciary respectively, may now cognosce and determine in Suspensions of the Interlocutors, Decrees, Sentences or Judgments of such Inferior Courts, but the said Circuit Court shall proceed therein in a summary Way; and in case they shall find the Reasons of any such Appeal not to be revelant or not instructed, or shall determine against the Party so complaining or appealing, the said Judge or Judges shall condemn the Appellant or Complainer in such Costs as the Court shall think proper to be paid to the other Party not exceeding the real Costs *bona fide* expended by such Party; and the Decree, Sentence or Judgment of such Circuit Court, in any of the Cases aforesaid, shall be final.

APPENDIX III.

PEDIGREE[1] ILLUSTRATING LORD ELCHIES' DESCENT PATERNALLY FROM THE LAIRDS OF GRANT.

James Grant, called The Bold, 3d Laird of Freuchie (1528-1553), had, with other issue—

John Grant, who succeeded his father in Freuchie as 4th Laird, and besides other issue, had as his eldest son—

Duncan Grant, younger of Freuchie, who mar. Margaret, daur. of Wm. Mackintosh of that Ilk. She survived him, and mar. 2ndly, Alexr. Gordon, younger of Abergeldie. Duncan died in 1582 *v.p.*, leaving several sons, the third of whom—

I. PATRICK OIG GRANT of Easter Elchies

Appears frequently as a witness in 1620 under that designation. Previously to this, in 1593, he received a charter of the lands of Strome from his brother, John Grant of Freuchie. In 1622 he was appointed one of a commission to deal with Allan Cameron of Lochiel for his submission. On the death of his elder brother, Mr. James Grant of Logie, he was appointed curator and tutor to his children;

[1]From the "Pedigree of the Grants of Easter Elchies in the Parish of Knockando, in Strathspey."—*The Chiefs of Grant*, Vol. I, 506-7.

and he and his son James granted a bond to Sir John Grant of Freuchie for his relief as security to him as curator to them. He sat on the inquest for the retour of Sir John Grant of Mulben in Lethen on 19th Feb., 1623-4; entered into a contract for the marriage of his daughter in 1634; and in a document dated in 1640, relating to the tocher of 1000 merks, which should have been paid on that marriage, he is referred to as deceased. He mar. Margaret, daur. of Sir Robert Innes of Balvenie.

II. James Grant, Fiar of Easter Elchies,

Who appears frequently as a witness, between 1618 and 1627, as son and apparent heir of Patrick Grant of Easter Elchies, and as fiar of Elchies. He was a party to the bond by his father to Sir John Grant of Freuchie in 1623. He mar. Katherine, daur. of Patrick Grant of Ballindalloch, who survived him, and mar. 2ndly, James Dunbar. James Grant predeceased his father in Oct., 1629.

III. Robert Grant of Easter Elchies,

Who succeeded his grandfather. In a discharge by his friends and nearest of kin, dated 8th August, 1640, to James Grant of Freuchie, for the key of Patrick Grant's "charter kist," Robert Grant is called "sone and air of wmqll James Grant, fiear of Elcheis, and oye to wmqll Patrick Grant of Elcheis." He joined in a bond of combination between James Grant of Freuchie and friends, and the men of Badenoch, Rothiemurchus, Strathavon and Glenlivet, on 30th March, 1645. He mar., before 1654, Margaret, daur. of Wm. Mackintosh of Kyllachie, and widow of John Grant of Lurg, and appears to have been alive in 1661.

IV. 1. Patrick Grant of Easter Elchies

Was retoured heir male to his uncle, Patrick Grant of Edinvillie or Hillhall, on 29th July, 1693. He disponed these lands on 5th Sept., 1688, to his brother John, with a clause for infefting the latter as heir to their uncle Patrick. He witnessed a discharge granted by his brother William on 14th Feb., 1691. He appears to have died *s.p.*, and to have been succeeded by his brother, Captain John Grant.

IV. 2. Captain John Grant of Easter Elchies

So designed in a document dated 19th Dec., 1696, to which he was a witness, and so in other documents later. On 5th Sept., 1688, he received from his brother Patrick a disposition of the lands of Edinvillie, which was confirmed by charter from Alexander Duff of Braco on 30th Sept., 1697. In 1711 he purchased the barony of Rothes from John, 9th Earl of Rothes. Captain John Grant is mentioned as a cautioner for the executors of the deceased Ludovick Grant of Dalvey in 1712, when the testament of that gentleman was recorded. He mar. Elizabeth, daur. of John Grant of Ballindalloch, and died before 21st June, 1718.

V. Patrick Grant of Easter Elchies, Lord Elchies.

APPENDIX IV.

PEDIGREE[1] ILLUSTRATING LORD ELCHIES' DESCENT MATERNALLY FROM THE FIRST GRANTS OF BALLINDALLOCH.

I. PATRICK GRANT in Ballindalloch,

Who appears about 1520 as a prominent member of the Grant family, and one of the Chiefs of the Clan. He acquired and held Ballindalloch from the Grants of Freuchie. He also acquired by purchase from Hugh Lamb, Baron of Tullochcarron, the half lands of Drumnagrane, and the half lands of Ballachrogan, in the barony of Tullochcarron. He was alive in 1532. It is not known whom he married, but he left issue, four sons and two daughters.

II. JOHN GRANT, first designed of Ballindalloch.

He was infeft in the lands of Pitchaish and Foyness in 1525, and in Ballindalloch in 1537. In 1539 he acquired from Patrick, Bishop of Moray, the lands of Advie, Tulchan, Calledir, Rororie and Advoky, in the barony of Strathspey. He also acquired in 1537 the lands of Easter Urquhard and Cantradoun, in 1543 the lands of Bogside, in 1547 the lands of Tullochcarron, and in 1548 he obtained a charter of the lands of Glenmoriston. He mar. 1st, Isabella, daur. of John Grant of Culcabock and Glenmoriston, and Isabella Innes, by whom he had issue, one

[1]From the "Pedigree of the First Grants of Ballindalloch, in the Parish of Inveravon and Shire of Elgin."—*The Chiefs of Grant*, Vol. I, 520-1.

son, George (who claimed the estates of his grandfather, but unsuccessfully); and 2ndly, in 1541, Barbara Gordon, widow of Wm. Hay, Laird of Lorny, and by her also had issue. He was slain on 11th Sept., 1559, in a quarrel with the Grants of Carron.

III. Patrick Grant of Ballindalloch.

He was the eldest son of John Grant and Barbara Gordon, but having been born previous to their marriage, letters of legitimation under the Great Seal were granted in his favour on 22d Oct., 1542. In 1551 he was infeft by his father in Ballindalloch and Tommore. He engaged in Huntly's Rebellion in 1568, but obtained a remission in the following year; and in 1584 pledged himself with the clan to defend their chief, the Laird of Freuchie. He had a charter of Ballindalloch from John Grant of Freuchie in 1568, and another from the Earl of Huntly of the lands of Auldcouth and Thomalemen on 21st May, 1575. He died on 8th Sept., 1586. He was twice married, 1st, about 1565, to Grissel Grant, daur. of John Grant of Freuchie; and 2ndly, about 1576, to Margaret Gordon, widow of Walter Innes of Auchroisk, who survived him and mar. John Gordon, son of Thos. Gordon of Cluny. He left issue.

IV. Patrick Grant of Ballindalloch.

He was infeft in Ballindalloch on 3d April, 1591, and in 1595 received a Crown charter of the barony of Tullochcarron to himself and Helen Ogilvie, his spouse. In 1613 he was pardoned for intercommuning with the Clan Gregor. During his time the lands of Ballindalloch passed into the hands of his brother, James, and he was present at his brother's infeftment in these lands on 8th May, 1632. He appears to have died before 1649. He mar., before 19th Jan., 1614, Helen Ogilvie, who predeceased him, dying before 1621, and left issue.

V. John Grant of Ballindalloch.

He obtained a charter from his father in 1619 of the lands of Ballindalloch, and redeemed the lands from his uncle, James, in 1633. In 1621 he and his spouse were infeft in

the Barony of Tullochcarron. In 1643 he is still designed "Younger" and "Fiar" of Ballindalloch; and in 1649 received a charter of the lands of Morinch. He mar. (contract dated 26th and 28th July, 1616), Elizabeth, eldest daur. of Walter Innes of Auchintoul, and left issue. In 1662 he styles himself Elder of Ballindalloch, and states that he is above sixty-six years of age. He appears to have survived till 1679.

VI. JOHN GRANT of Ballindalloch.

In 1649 he received from his father the lands of Ballindalloch, and was infeft in them in 1663. In 1655 he is styled "Fiar" of Ballindalloch, and in 1679 "Younger." In 1670 he obtained from Murdoch, Bishop of Moray, a charter of the lands of Tulchan, etc. In 1680 he transferred to his eldest son, John, all his estates and liabilities. He mar. (contract dated 17th Sept., 1649), Margaret, daur. of Sir John Leslie of Newton, who survived him. He died before 1690, and left issue. The names of his children, with several exceptions, are given in the settlement of 1680 as heirs of provision.

ELIZABETH GRANT, 3d daur., who mar. Captain John Grant of Easter Elchies.

PATRICK GRANT of Easter Elchies, LORD ELCHIES.

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